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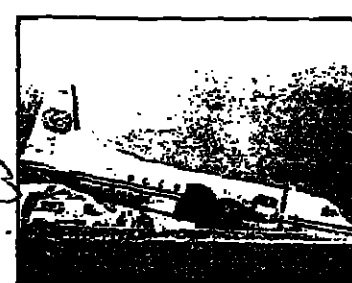
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## Six Lebanese civilians killed by car bomb

By DAVID RUDGE and JAY BUSHINSKY

Six Lebanese civilians were killed and two others wounded — one of them seriously — in a roadside bomb attack in the security zone last night.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu hopes to win the inner cabinet's support for his proposal that the government endorse UN Security Council Resolution 425, which calls for the IDF to leave southern Lebanon.

"I'm going to propose that Israel formally adopt 425,"

Netanyahu said in Ma'aleh Adumim yesterday. "We're in that process, but I think it's important to make our intentions clear: We want to leave Lebanon, [and] we want the government of Lebanon to enter south Lebanon and take charge of policing it against terrorist attacks."

Hizbullah claimed responsibility for the bomb attack, but insisted that all the victims were South Lebanese Army personnel, even though they were dressed in workmen's clothes and driving a civilian vehicle.

The blast occurred shortly after the conclusion of a visit by

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai to SLA headquarters in Marjayoun — some five kilometers from the site of the attack.

Mortars were fired at IDF positions along the northern border last night with some apparently falling inside Israel, sparking heavy exchanges in the region. There were no casualties among IDF or SLA troops.

Reports from south Lebanon said the explosive device was detonated alongside a pickup truck in which workmen, all Shi'ites from Kila, just north of Menula, were travelling. The reports said the civilians had been carrying out

construction work at a SLA outpost nearby and the bombers apparently assumed they were SLA soldiers after seeing them leave the outpost.

Senior military sources said the Hizbullah operation was a blatant breach of the Grapes of Wrath understandings.

Earlier, Mordechai met with SLA commander Gen. Antoine Lahad and other dignitaries in the security zone. The aim was apparently to ease their concern over Israel's intentions in light of the 425 initiative.

"I have made it clear to Gen. Lahad, senior officers, and digni-

ties in south Lebanon on many occasions that they will be part of any future agreement," he said.

Mordechai later told reporters: "It is clear now to everybody, after our initiative, that we are in south Lebanon for one reason — security. If the Lebanese government and the Lebanese Army are ready to take responsibility and would like to have a security arrangement with Israel and they want to respect UN Security Council resolutions 425 and 426, they will find that the government of Israel is serious."

"I believe that if we can achieve an agreement with Lebanon, it

will open the door to continue negotiations with the Syrians," he said.

Lahad said he supports the initiative.

Among the senior officers to be on hand at the inner cabinet meeting will be Uri Lubrani, the Defense Ministry's coordinator of activities in Lebanon. The projected pullout was one of the topics aired by Mordechai during his recent meetings with senior American officials. Lubrani, who traveled with Mordechai, was actively involved in these talks.

A government source doubted that the cabinet would recom-

mend endorsement of Resolution 426, which spells out the procedure for withdrawal and the transfer of regional control to the Lebanese Army. "It's just an addendum," the source said.

Speedy approval in principle by the cabinet will not mean an instant withdrawal, however, the source said. There must be negotiations with the Lebanese on the timetable and procedure to be followed.

Hizbullah's reaction is deemed irrelevant at this stage, he added, as is Iran's.

See **LEBANON**, Page 2

## Health funds to collect NIS 350m. more from members

By JUDY SIEGEL

Starting on July 1, the four public health funds will collect a maximum of NIS 350 million annually directly from their members to help reduce the deficit in the national health insurance system.

The payments, to be paid quarterly via standing orders at the bank or when visiting a specialist or hospital outpatient clinic, will be added to the existing 4.8 percent health tax the National Insurance Institute deducts from monthly income and the optional supplementary health insurance payments made to one's insurer.

The health funds will be able to charge up to NIS 40 a month per family, plus a maximum of NIS 30 per quarter per patient for visits to each specialist who is not the patient's primary physician. A "ceiling" would be set by the health funds beyond which payments for visits to doctors would not rise.

But ministry officials were unable to explain how independent doctors working for health funds would know when the family had exceeded the official ceiling for that quarter. Members also will pay fees for visits to outpatient clinics in hospitals, except for dialysis, AIDS, and cancer patients.

Full exemptions would be granted to low-income groups, including those getting income supplements, NII allotments, disability payments, and the like. Large families not included in this disadvantaged group would not pay for doctors' fees from the fourth child onward. The chronically ill will pay up to a limit set by the health minister.

Explaining the new rules yesterday, Health Minister Yehoshua Matza said he had approved guidelines. The insurers, he said, will have to turn these into specific programs within a few days. Matza conceded that he had preferred raising the health tax to 5.5% of income instead of instituting a complicated system of extra charges.

"Such an increment would solve all the deficit problems in the system," he admitted.

While unwilling to call the direct "payments" a tax, he explained that the government has consistently opposed raising taxes, including health taxes.

The requirement that the health funds and the public contribute more to covering the health services' deficit results from last year's Arrangements Law, pushed through the Knesset by the Finance Ministry, and opposed by the Health Ministry.

See **HEALTH**, Page 2



**A private visit**

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, surrounded by aides, leaves the Anne Frank House museum in Amsterdam yesterday. Story, Page 2.

## 'Tkuma' writer receives death threats

By LARRY DENFNER

The writer/director of the controversial *Tkuma* episode on Palestinian terror, to be screened Sunday night, said she has received "more than 20" anonymous telephone death threats and hate calls in the last three weeks.

"They call my home and say, 'We will burn you.' 'You f— Arabs.' 'You stinking leftist, we

know where you live,'" Ronit Weiss-Berkowitz, writer/director of the episode, "Path of Terror — *Biladi Biladi*," said.

The calls began on March 11, Weiss-Berkowitz said, after *Yedioth Aharonot* published her name in a front-page story about Yehoram Gaon's resignation as host of *Tkuma*, Channel 1's 22-part documentary series on Israel's history. In the *Yedioth*

story, Gaon said the episode "glorified the role of the terrorists," a charge Weiss-Berkowitz denies.

She said she has not told the police about the threats. "What can the police do? People call, say something quickly, and hang up." She said the threats have been especially unsettling for her 11-year-old son.

Weiss-Berkowitz, who directs Channel 2's weekly *Fact* news

program, said she received similar anonymous calls shortly after the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, when Channel 2 screened her documentaries on right-wing demonstrations against Rabin, and on how "little (Baruch) Goldsteins," in her words, were being raised in Hebron's Jewish community.

"But this is the first time I've been threatened before my film was even broadcast," she said.

## Electric Corp.'s profit plunges by 79%

By DAN GERSTENFELD

The Israel Electric Corporation's net profit plunged 78.9 percent last year, the state-held monopoly reported yesterday.

The company attributed the decline — from NIS 422.3 million to NIS 89.26m. — to the fact that the increase in rates was 3.2% below the inflation figure for 1997, after a 3.69% erosion in 1996.

In addition, the IEC claimed that various expenditures, which had been reported as investments during the seventy-five years of the company's existence, were not recognized as such this year by the newly established Public Utility Authority — Electricity (PUA).

Under the old accounting system, the IEC would have added another NIS 200m. in net profit, the PUA said.

The PUA said, however, that the decision to reduce electricity prices was not the main reason

for the decline.

"The authority reduced prices by 0.5% in October," said PUA Chairman Haim Elata. "It is hard to believe that a decrease of 0.5% for three months led to the sharp decline in profitability."

He added that costs were not recognized as investments because IEC workers refused to cooperate with the authority.

IEC Chairman Gad Ya'acobi and CEO Rafi Peled noted that profitability declined despite a 7% real-term increase in electric consumption, which is equal to the average rise during the last 10 years and a decline of 7% in operating costs.

The rise in demand was reflected in the 2.8% rise in overall electricity sales to NIS 7.7b., compared with NIS 7.5b. in 1996.

Ya'acobi and Peled said that the company is forced to meet a demand which is rising at a pace unparalleled elsewhere in the West.

## Open IEC books

Analysts were scratching their heads yesterday in an attempt to explain the Israel Electric Corporation's topsy-turvy economic performance.

The company's net profits totaled NIS 89.26 million, down 78.9 percent in 1997 — a huge drop by any standard — but this only tells a fraction of the story.

During the first quarter, net profits reached NIS 183.25m. Then, during the second quarter, it lost NIS 300.4m. This trend was repeated in the second half, with gains of NIS 368.53m. in the third quarter offset by an NIS 162.13m. loss in the final three months.

These fluctuations can depend on a variety of factors, including the timing and size of investments and the performance of the company's overseas bank portfolios, according to energy consultant Dr. Amir Mor.

IEC spokesman Dedi Golan last night denied both these suggestions, but he did concede there was considerable debate over the

insurance issue prior to the publication of the annual report.

On the fiery question of the relationship between IEC and the newly founded Public Utilities Authority — Electricity, Mor said that the IEC must learn to cooperate with the

PUA.

In recent months a bitter battle has been fought between the relevant authorities, as the PUA attempted to limit electricity rates. So far the courts have sided with the PUA, but the IEC is threatening to take the issue up with the government.

The reasons the IEC offered yesterday for its drastic fall in profits last year were nonsense, according to PUA chairman Haim Elata.

"What they are saying is just not true," he said, adding that the IEC is blocking his agency's access to the gigantic utility's books.

"Rather than do the easy thing and point the finger outward, they may want to seek their problems inside the IEC."

## Albright tells reporters: 'Some progress' made in Ross visit

By HILLEL KUTTLER and ELLI WOHLGELERTER

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said yesterday that "some indications now exist that some of the gaps can be bridged." But he added that "we are significantly short of being able to bridge the gaps necessary to restart the peace process."

The US believes that "time is running out, that there are hard decisions that need to be made, and that there is a feeling on our part that greater urgency needs to be appreciated by the parties," Rubin said.

A senior administration official echoed Albright's comments, telling a representative of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) that in the aftermath of Ross's trip, the peace process is moving in "the right direction."

Albright said Ross went to the region "with some ideas in order to try and narrow the gap, and there has been some progress as a result of his most recent trip. But it's not nearly enough, I think, for us to say that there has been a breakthrough."

Speaking at the White House, Albright added: "It is important that there has been some movement, but we also have to make very clear that there is a level of frustration both here and in the Middle East because the stalemate has gone on."

Asked to explain what "progress" was made, Rubin said yesterday that "some indications now exist that some of the gaps can be bridged." But he added that "we are significantly short of being able to bridge the gaps necessary to restart the peace process."

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See **ROSS**, Page 2

## No one wants a confrontation

Details on US envoy Dennis Ross's latest shuttle are scant, and each side is obviously trying to give it the most convenient spin.

Clearly, no breakthrough was achieved; less clear, however, is whether, given the Palestinian position, better results could have been obtained.

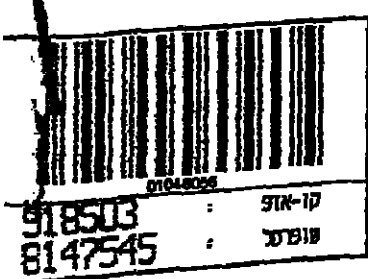
This statement requires some clarification, especially as in the public mind and the media everything seems to hinge on the unresolved issue of the percentage of the so-called second redeployment from the territories. However, this may not be the main issue at all — certainly not the only one.

In fact, this problem can be bridged, and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu seems to be willing to do his bit to help

resolve it, though it would help if Israel were to be reassured with regard to the American commitments it got, including those which were made in connection with last year's Hebron Agreement.

Israel has very real security concerns — and in the light of past and present experience, it is justified in having them. An additional point which has not been extensively mentioned is that although the US proposals, as reported by the media, apparently incorporate some of the Palestinian preconditions, Yasser Arafat refused to give Ross concrete answers on what steps he would take on security matters parallel to the proposed stages of the Israeli troop withdrawals.

See **COMMENT**, Page 3





## NEWS

in brief

### Shahak meets with Shelton

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin Shahak yesterday met in the Pentagon with Gen. Henry Shelton, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff. Shahak thanked Shelton for the coordination and cooperation extended during the recent crisis with Iraq, when the US airlifted medicine, detectors, and protective equipment against biological attacks. It was their first working meeting since Shelton took office last year. Shahak and Shelton swapped assessments on the situation in the Middle East, and Shahak invited Shelton to visit Israel. *Arish O'Sullivan*

### House supports funding for Arrow program

The House of Representatives passed by a voice vote on Monday night a bill providing \$10 million in additional funding for the Arrow anti-missile program. The allocation was contained in the Iran Missile Protection Act, which includes \$147m. overall for a variety of theater missile defense projects meant to counteract the development of Iran's Shahab 3 missile. The Arrow amount is to be used for improving the Arrow's "interoperability" with American missile defense systems, including the Patriot and THAAD. *Hillel Kautler*

### First Jewish congresswoman dies

Former US congresswoman Bella Abzug, a dedicated feminist who fought against the Vietnam war and found that a woman's place can be in the House of Representatives, died yesterday. She was 77. She died of complications following heart surgery at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, according to her spokesman. *AP*

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on the passing of your beloved  
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Wednesday, April 1, 1998 (4 Nissan 5758).  
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### Ya'alon tells Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee:

## Peace process is not in crisis

By LIAT COLLINS

The Palestinians do not see the current situation as a crisis, because the two sides are still in the middle of the process, OC Intelligence Maj.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon was quoted as telling the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday.

Ya'alon reportedly said the Palestinians are depending on the US to put pressure on Israel to carry out the second and third redeployments, as well as other clauses in the interim agreements, such as the air- and sea-ports in Gaza and safe passage for Palestinians between the West Bank and Gaza.

Answering a question by MK Ze'ev (Benny) Begin (Likud), Ya'alon said there is

no reason to believe the Palestinian Authority would change its policy on terror — of treating only specific incidents but not the infrastructure — if more territory were transferred to full Palestinian control.

He said the Palestinians are trying to show they accept the US recommendations so that they can put the blame on Israel if the talks fail.

Fatah had organized street activities and expressions of Palestinian unrest, Ya'alon said, but is taking action to prevent it from getting out of control. For example, he said, Fatah used tear gas on rioters trying to reach Joseph's Tomb in Nablus.

He said the Palestinians want to bring about a summit meeting in Washington, but

if this fails they will hold an Arab summit meeting on Israel's refusal to reach an agreement.

Hamas is still planning to carry out attacks against Israel, including kidnapping soldiers to bargain for the release of Hamas prisoners.

The Palestinian Authority acted against potential Hamas elements before the visit by US special envoy Dennis Ross, noted Ya'alon. The PA found arms and made some arrests, particularly in Gaza.

The explosion of the car bomb near Ramallah embarrassed the PA, Ya'alon said. The PA is investigating in various directions but the main theory is that the Hamas was behind the attempted terror attack.

On the Israeli initiative to withdraw from south Lebanon on the basis on UN Security Council Resolution 425, Ya'alon said that both Syria and Lebanon are presenting this as an Israeli maneuver to drive a wedge between them.

Regarding press reports in Israel that Hizbullah has undertaken to stop terror activity if Israel withdraws, Ya'alon said the quotes and items had been taken out of context and that Hizbullah's actual policy is vague.

Concerning Iraq, Ya'alon said that although the UNSCOP inspectors have returned, the feeling is that the sites they have inspected had been previously cleaned up.



Welcoming the PM

Ma'aleh Adumim Chief Rabbi Yehoshua Katz (left) gives a welcoming blessing to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu upon his arrival in the city yesterday. *(AP)*

## Arafat moved by visit to Anne Frank house

By YOSHI LAMPKOWICZ and news agencies

AMSTERDAM — Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat said yesterday he was deeply moved by his visit to the cramped rooms where Anne Frank hid from the Nazis during World War II.

"A sad story. A very sad story," Arafat told reporters yesterday afternoon as he left the narrow house in the center of Amsterdam where Anne, her family and several other Jews hid for over two years in claustrophobic and squalid conditions.

"This is what I worked on with my peace partner [prime minister Yitzhak] Rabin so it would not happen to our children and the next generation," he said. After the 20-minute visit, during which he watched a videotape about Bergen Belsen, the concentration camp

in which Anne Frank died.

Earlier, at a news conference, Arafat pledged to pass on his impressions of the Anne Frank house to fellow Palestinians.

His visit came as Middle East peace talks ground to a standstill, and drew fire from some Jewish groups who accused Arafat of mounting a cheap publicity stunt.

Amsterdam Mayor Schelte Patijn, who accompanied Arafat during the tour, described it as "a friendly visit by a head of state."

Arafat reportedly asked to visit the Anne Frank House last week. During a meeting with Patijn yesterday, Arafat said that he had a "personal wish" to visit there because it is his duty to see with his own eyes how the Jewish people suffered. Arafat noted that the suffering of the Palestinians "is not similar

to that of the Jews in the Holocaust."

The Anne Frank Foundation did not object to the request because Arafat came as a private person making a private visit, a foundation spokeswoman said. In January, a visit by Arafat to Washington's Holocaust Memorial Museum was aborted after controversy over whether such a visit was appropriate.

Anne and her family hid with other Jews from 1942 to 1944 in the concealed back rooms of her father's former offices. They were betrayed and arrested in August 1944, just weeks before Amsterdam was liberated. Anne, 15, died of typhoid in Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in the final days of the war, in late February or March 1945. Her story achieved worldwide recognition after Otto Frank, the only member of the family to survive, published his daughter's diary.

### ROSS

Continued from Page 1

Meanwhile, Netanyahu told an assembly of high-school pupils in Ma'aleh Adumim that their city is "part of greater Jerusalem. We are putting efforts into the growth of this place."

In answer to a pupil's question about security, the prime minister said, "We're not suckers. A situation in which we give and do not receive is not acceptable. Israel cannot give and give and not get anything back in return from the other side."

He accused the Palestinians of failing to uphold their commitment to fight terrorism.

"We will not accept the equation of land in return for nothing, or land in return for terror," he said. "That will not work. We have given lands to the Palestinian Authority, but instead of bearing peace, it bore terror."

Netanyahu said he does not know if the US plans to publish its pull-back proposal, but that "the decisive factor for me is to stand firm on the principles that guide us, which is to say — mutual security and reasonable security margins for Israel."

"And I know that we can stand by the things that are vital for us, and to show flexibility for what we can be flexible about, and to stand firm on what we have to be obstinate about."

### HEALTH

Continued from Page 1

Dr. Dov Tchernichovsky, an expert on health systems' policies and management at Ben-Gurion University, denounced plans to collect fees directly from health fund members. Tchernichovsky, who was a member of the Netanyahu State Judicial Commission on the Health System, that some eight years ago recommended the establishment of the national health insurance system, argued at an Israel Management Center meeting Monday night that such payments would be an "ethnic tax," since weaker elements, mostly those of Oriental origin, are less organized and powerful and their accessibility to health care would be reduced.

Matza said he wanted the NII to collect the charges from residents by deducting it from their monthly wages, but that the NII "refused."

Matza did not explain why, but he said he would persevere in demanding that the collection be via the NII instead of making the health funds collection agencies again, as they were before 1995.

The NII declined to collect the extra fees because it insisted on its own terms — that the collection be done on a progressive basis, according to income, but this would set identical criteria to health; tax collection, and the gov-

ernment refuses to increase "taxes."

Matza said that of the NIS 1.4 billion deficit in the health system, NIS 450m. would be saved by the health funds carrying out efficiency measures and NIS 150m. by reducing their development budgets.

The government would supply a NIS 300m. subsidy and the public would pay NIS 150m. in direct fees over the next six months, until the end of 1998. The remaining NIS 420m. will be passed on to the next year.

Matza said he wasn't even speaking about the NIS 1b. deficit of the health funds accumulated from previous years. "For this, we have no solution, but there are various proposals, such as bank loans and spreading out payments," Matza blamed "extravagance and waste" by the health funds over past years, especially since the national health insurance system began three years ago, for part of their deficits.

He did not explain why his predecessors and Health and Finance Ministry officials failed to restrict these "extravagant expenditures" years ago, only saying that this was a "failure."

Ze'ev Wornbrandt, a deputy director-general for finance at Kupat Holim Clalit, said at the IMC meeting that direct health fund charges are "regressive" collections based on use and not on income, which would cause "ine-

quitable taxation." These payments don't take into consideration extra spending by health fund members on medications, dental care, and geriatric nursing care.

Dr. Rahel Kay, a senior official at Kupat Holim Maccabi, argued that since her health fund instituted fees for doctors' visits in 1983, it found that patients' demand for services declined and reduced the number of per-patient visits. Maccabi will be allowed to continue to charge for visits to primary physicians, in addition to consultations with specialists, if it wishes. However, she conceded that research did not make it clear if these fees reduced only unnecessary consultations, or discouraged patients from making urgent visits.

## Ramallah 'bomb victim' said killed earlier

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH and MOHAMMED NABE

Palestinian sources yesterday suggested that no one was killed when a car bomb exploded in Ramallah on Monday. They suggested that the man whose body was found in the car had been murdered before the explosion.

Medical officials who were involved in conducting an autopsy on the body said that several bullets were found in the body.

West Bank Preventive Security Service head Jibril Rajoub last night refused to discuss in detail new developments in the investigation of the explosion. He said that the findings would not be published until after the meeting between heads of the Palestinian intelligence, security, police and military forces that took place at his headquarters in Jericho last night.

In an unprecedented move yesterday, Palestinian Intelligence officials allowed Israeli explosive experts to visit the site of the explosion, at the Beituniah industrial zone in Ramallah.

Meanwhile, Palestinian security officials said that the bomb, originally estimated to have contained 50 kg. of explosives, in fact contained 10-15 kg. The officials also said that a Palestinian security official that had been wounded the night of the blast was seriously injured, but had not died, as reported yesterday.

## IDF closes school near Tekoa

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH and MOHAMMED NABE

IDF and Civil Administration officials closed a school at Tekoa on the outskirts of Bethlehem yesterday afternoon after requests to refrain from stoning IDF troops and Israeli vehicles in the area were ignored.

The IDF Spokesman said civil administration officials and IDF officers had met with the school's principal, teachers and students and asked them to put a halt to stonethrowing incidents that had increased recently.

When the requests were ignored, the spokesman said officials decided to close the school, located in Area B, until further notice.

Meanwhile, Hamas won 21 seats at Hebron University student elections, with Fatah gaining second place with 17. The Communist Party won two seats and the Islamic Jihad party one.

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### SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1:00 p.m. at the National Diamond Center in Talpota, 143 Beit Lehem Rd. Tel. 02-673-3770.

Elli Wohlgeher contributed to this report.



# Knesset to reconvene in special session

By LIAT COLLINS

The Knesset is expected to convene next Wednesday for a special session during the spring recess on matters concerning the talks with the Palestinians. This is at the request of several parties which submitted the necessary 30 signatures to convene the special session.

Labor will present a motion on "The failure of [US special envoy] Dennis Ross's mission and the stalemate in the peace process." Meretz will submit one on the

freeze in US-Israeli relations and "Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's inability to further the peace process."

Acting Labor whip Micha Goldman said that "the continued stalemate caused by the prime minister's policies presents a significant threat of increased enemy action by the Palestinians. The fear of this escalation requires the convening of the Knesset during the recess."

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid called Netanyahu the "arch trickster. He is proof you can trick a lot of the

people a lot of the time, but now he has reached the end of his trickery and more and more people in Israel and abroad now realize he never really intended to further the peace process but just pretended," Sarid said.

Sarid said the prime minister's confrontation with those who reject Oslo - including National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, National Religious Party MKs and the settlers - has been orchestrated and timed so he can tell the world he wants to make

progress but cannot.

Hadash also demanded the Knesset convene to discuss what it called: "The collapse of the diplomatic negotiations and the takeover by the settlers of the political agenda of the State of Israel."

Hadash whip Salah Salim said "Netanyahu has exploited every way of diverting attention and stealing time and has reached the moment of truth when he has to decide whether Israel wants war or a true resumption of the peace process."

National Religious Party whip Shmaryahu Ben-Tsur, on the other hand, said the Knesset should meet to discuss the way the Palestinians are failing to abide by their commitments.

And the Likud is demanding a debate on: "The opposition's taking the Palestinian side in a period of sensitive and fateful negotiations." Coalition and Likud whip Meir Sheerit said the opposition's stand invites pressure on Israel and hinders the government in the negotiations.

## Gov't: No Har Homa tenders soon

By ELLI WOHLGELER

The Housing Ministry denied reports yesterday that tenders are scheduled to be issued for Har Homa within a week to 10 days.

"Israel Radio announced today something that has no foundation, none whatsoever," said Moshe Eilat, spokesman for the Housing Ministry. "We are almost ready, but we haven't decided yet when we are going to issue the tenders. Whatever they said has no foundation whatsoever. It's simply nonsense."

Eilat admitted that he and other government officials had said over the past four months that tenders would be issued within the first quarter of 1998, but it wasn't a hard and fast deadline.

"I told [Deputy Housing Minister] Meir Porush this is the end of the first quarter, and he laughed at me and he said that Yom Kippur has to be on the 10th day of Tishrei, but this [issuing of tenders] can be a few days after, a few days before - there is no specific date. When I said the first quarter, it could also be the first two weeks of the second quarter. We don't have any precise days."

The issuing of tenders is the next step in the process of building some 1,200 units on the controversial site in southeastern Jerusalem has been a rallying cry for right-wing Knesset members.

Michael Kleiner, leader of the Land of Israel Front, has threatened to be absent - along with the 17 other Israel Front members - from Knesset votes that would support the government.

Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert has threatened to challenge Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu for leadership of the Likud Party if the premier does not move forward on the project.

Asked if the delay in issuing tenders was tied to a pullback from the territories, Eilat said, "I really don't know. I know one thing: we are almost ready with everything, and I believe that Meir Porush will have to discuss it with Bibi Netanyahu."



Getting acquainted

Incoming head of the Judea and Samaria Civil Administration Brig.-Gen. Dov Tsedaka yesterday calls on Latin Patriarch Michel Sabbah for a get-acquainted visit. He also met with Greek Orthodox Patriarch Diodoros I. (IDF Spokesman)

## RUSSIAN PRESS REVIEW

By YOSEF BEGUN

### Whose land is it?

The repeated statements of Yasser Arafat and other Palestinian Authority leaders about the "right of the Palestinian people to all of Palestine" have found fertile ground among Israeli Arabs. Dov Kontorov in *Vesti* wrote about the hatred of Israeli Arabs toward the Zionist state which, year by year, has become more blatant. "Today, it is difficult to determine where this antipathy is more virulent - in Nablus or in Nazareth."

This year, the residents of Arab settlements will "celebrate" Israel's 50th anniversary as a day of Palestinian catastrophe, he said. Such solidarity among Israeli

Arabs and Palestinians gives credence to those who claim that only separation between Palestinians and Jews can bring real peace, stressed Kontorov.

"The more doubt we express about our willingness to defend our past and our future, the more tempting it is for Arabs to envision total revenge," he said. The crucial question is whether the Jewish nation will be strong enough to endure a protracted struggle for the land of the Jewish state, he said.

### The Ben-Ari Affair

Zvi Ben-Ari received such enormous publicity that "the name of Zvi Ben-Ari became as familiar as the name of Yisrael Ba'al-Ya'akov," wrote Yevgeniya Kravchik in *Vesti*'s weekly magazine, *Okna*. "The dramatic outcome of his trial - his confessing to having committed many of the serious crimes he had been accused of, including attempts to bribe high officials - shocked his supporters, among them leaders of the Russian community, including MKs."

Arguing that "Ben-Ari had been accused because of his Russian origin," they had staged protests and demonstrations. They con-

tended that police used illegal methods of interrogation, to which he succumbed.

Kravchik cited lawyer Amnon Zichroni, who said, "No lawyer would encourage his client to make a deal with the prosecutor if he was sure the latter did not have enough evidence against the accused." Zichroni stressed that attempting to bribe an official is a very serious offense, punishable by seven years in prison.

Kravchik said that the great show of support for Ben-Ari brought "serious harm to the community of immigrants from the former Soviet Union."

Victor Polsky, in *Vesti*, opposed the claim by Ben-Ari supporters that he was indicted because he is from the USSR.

Polsky listed seven cases in which high-level Israelis (not immigrants), among them big businessmen, a bank director, and a government minister, were accused of relatively petty financial crimes. They received long prison sentences.

Some of them committed suicide to escape the shame of interrogation and public exposure. "Ben-Ari's supporters tried to make a mountain out of a molehill," said Polsky.

### Standing up to Albright

Georg Mordel, in *Vremya*, on the US-Israeli debate about the percentage of the second withdrawal, pointed out that Zionism was based on the premise that Jews have a right to Eretz Yisrael, and its founders "did not suffer from a guilt complex regarding Arabs." He quoted David Ben-Gurion's statement at the 24th Zionist Congress in 1956: "The Zionist movement makes no sense if we doubt our moral right to all of Eretz Yisrael."

Commenting on the debacle with the US, Mordel said: "There were disagreements like these before" and cited such examples as Yitzhak Rabin's refusal to withdraw the IDF from Sinai up to the Gidi and Mita passes, contrary to America's demand; and the bombing of Iraq's nuclear reactor under the Begin government, resulting in Jimmy Carter's embargo on American military aid to Israel. But, Mordel stressed, "the White House did not declare war against us."

As he put it, Israel can "withstand Madeleine Albright's pressure tactics" with the help of the US Congress "which, under Republican control, does not share plans to force Israel to accept Arafat's proposals."

### COMMENT

Continued from Page 1

The Palestinian and general Arab tactic is very clear: maintain the stalemate as long as possible to induce American to put pressure on Israel. Though in theory this might also lead to pressure on the Palestinian side, this would be of

little practical consequence, not only because contrary to the very tangible Israeli concessions - land

Arafat's "quid" for the Israeli "quo" is no more than promises of the kind he has often given - and broken - in the past.

The immediate question at hand, however, is not Arafat's modus operandi, but the view Washington might take of the developments.

Will she or won't she? Will Secretary of State Madeleine Albright make the American proposals public, that is.

Obviously, that's what the Palestinians would like the US to do in order to create a "climate of crisis" in the American-Israeli relationship.

Just as obviously, this is not in the best interests of either Israel or the US. Not only would this create unproductive tension between two close allies - tension which would have unwarranted domestic political repercussions in both countries - but it would inevitably lead to a further hardening of the Arab position, an unrealistic expectation that America will "deliver Israel." This would even further diminish the chances of Israel and the

## NEWS

in brief

### Syria, Egypt, Saudi Arabia discuss peace process

The foreign ministers of Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia held talks yesterday on Israeli-Arab peace efforts. Arab diplomats in Riyadh said. They said Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa and Syria's Farouk Shara met Prince Saud Faisal in Riyadh on Monday night and again yesterday.

Moussa and Shara also met Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, who is on a visit to Riyadh. The foreign ministers later left Saudi Arabia without making any comment. Moussa said he and Mubarak would meet Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat in Sharm e-Sheikh today to discuss the US initiative and any future action. The diplomats would not give any details on the talks. Reuters

### Peace Now to monitor settlements by plane

Peace Now will take to the skies next week in order to monitor settlement activity from the air. Spokeswoman Hagit Ya'ari said starting next week the movement would rent a small plane to do so. She stressed that members would continue to monitor activity from the ground as well, but that the plane would allow members to cover more territory in a shorter amount of time. Margot Dudkevitch

### PM's staff not source of leaks

After the entire senior staff of the Prime Minister's Office was questioned by the General Security Service to determine the source of recent leaks to the media, an official source said yesterday that everyone concerned was cleared. Among those targeted by the GSS were Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's foreign policy adviser, Uzi Arad, and his communications director, David Bar-Ilan. The GSS also questioned several senior Foreign Ministry officials. The probe was triggered by the disclosure of two sensitive developments: the arrest of several Mossad agents in Bern and a confidential letter Netanyahu sent to Jordan's King Hussein. Jay Bushinsky

### Palestinian Police detain Jerusalem residents

The police yesterday accused Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's police force of illegally detaining two Arab residents of east Jerusalem. Jerusalem police chief Yair Yitzhaki said he would not tolerate Palestinian police activities in Jerusalem and would "use all methods to prevent these kinds of incidents."

Jerusalem police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby said two Arab employees of the Ministry of Transportation were picked up by two plainclothes Palestinian policemen near the Old City. He said the two men were taken to a police station in Abu Dis. "They were questioned, released, and then returned," he said. AP

### Yahalom: Regulations on settlers need revision

The regulations pertaining to the maintenance of law and order among settlers are discriminatory, Transportation Minister Shaul Yahalom said in a letter to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday. Yahalom said that the regulations, which entitle soldiers and policemen to detain settlers, had no equal in Israeli law and are anti-democratic. The regulations, which were formulated in 1995, were discussed at last week's cabinet meeting. Yahalom called on Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein to revise them. Batseva Tsur

### Nude body of man found in Jerusalem

The naked body of a man, around 60 years old, was found last night in a car in Jerusalem's Ein-Kerem neighborhood. There were no signs of violence on the body, and police don't believe he was murdered. The body was taken to Abu Kabir for forensic testing. Elli Wohlgelemer

### Netanyahu to take part in March of the Living

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu is to take part in the annual March of the Living at Auschwitz, Army Radio reported. The Prime Minister's Office said Netanyahu was expected to take part in the march, but that his participation had not been officially confirmed. The march is held on Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day, which falls on April 23 this year. On the following day Netanyahu will hold talks with Poland's president, prime minister and foreign minister, Army Radio said. AP

### Turkish defense delegation arrives Friday

Turkish Deputy Defense Minister for Defense Industries Yalcin Burcak is to head a delegation of senior Turkish Defense Ministry officials arriving here on Friday. They will be the guests of Defense Ministry Director-General Ilan Biran. Burcak will meet with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and his senior advisor David Ivri. He also will visit Elbit and IAI. Jerusalem Post Staff

### Labor court fines Ramle NIS 2 million

The Jerusalem District Labor Court yesterday ordered the Ramle Municipality to pay NIS 2 million in damages for withholding the salaries of 600 workers for an extended period last year. Yitzhak Rochberger, secretary of the Histadrut's local authorities division, said the Histadrut would appeal the decision as too low. The penalty was set at 10 percent, while it should have been set at 35 percent a month, Rochberger said. He warned of similar legal action against any other local authority or municipality that withholds workers' salaries. Jerusalem Post Staff

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Norman Spector - current publisher of The Jerusalem Post

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## Rebbe's son gets 12 years for sexually abusing niece

A Bnei Brak man, whose father heads a hassidic sect, was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment for molesting his young niece by Tel Aviv District Court yesterday.

Judges Devora Berliner, Sarah Gadot, and Nissim Yishaya said that the man had taken advantage of his niece in every way possible — he had stolen her youth and innocence, destroyed her faith in the world, and made her an outcast from her community. His actions also further estranged a broken family, they added.

The man raped and sodomized his niece from the time she was eight until she was 18. However, due to the statute of limitations, he was not charged for the crimes he committed against her when she was eight and nine.

The judges noted that the man had taken advantage of the fact that the girl's mother had abused her and the other children and that they had been sent to live with other families. When the girl was sent to live with his father, instead of helping her recover from the trauma her mother had inflicted on her, the man sexually abused her.

The judges also pointed out that, according to the Noahide laws, incest is punishable by death.

"We do not know of any humane society that does not abhor and repudiate those who commit sex crimes," the judges said.

The man also severely harmed his niece's chances of getting married and building a Jewish home, the judges said, as she was pushed out of her haredi community after she complained to police. She came forward and testified despite being threatened by members of her community and her uncle.

The judges rejected the claim by the man's lawyer, Tzvi Lidsky, that the niece had not suffered any psychological damage, stating that the effects of everything she had suffered may not yet be evident.

The judges also condemned the haredi community's criticisms of the court.

"We are sorry that the character witnesses that testified [on behalf of the uncle] did not hear the long, detailed, and heart-breaking testimony of the complainant... the complainant is the granddaughter of the rebbe, she is part of the haredi community and not a stranger," they said.

They also pointed out that "it is not the haredi community in the dock, but the accused alone."

(TIM)

## 'Blood libel' charges reflect haredi dilemma

When hassidim sang and danced in the Tel Aviv District Court to demonstrate their faith in the innocence of their rebbe's son, despite his conviction for having raped and sodomized his young niece, they were giving voice to those forces in the haredi community which see the outside world as the enemy.

### BACKGROUND

By HAIM SHAPIRO

That is the view of Prof. Menahem Friedman of Bar-Ilan University, an expert on the sociology of haredi society. A graphic example of what Friedman was describing was provided by a haredi spokesman, who described the verdict as a "blood libel."

"The court is antisemitic," said the haredi spokesman, who insisted that his name not be mentioned in relation with the case.

He insisted that there had been no proof and that if anyone other than a member of the haredi world had been on trial, he would have been acquitted. With two conflicting accounts, he said, the court had no way of determining what was true and what was not, adding that he believed most Israeli courts are antisemitic.

The judges, he said, had chosen to believe the girl, who insisted that over a period of eight years, since she had been 10, her uncle had sexually abused her, only because they were influenced by the media. The entire accusation had been the result of a family squabble, he said.

Another haredi spokesman, who also insisted on anonymity in relation to the case, said it is pure foolishness to believe that the court could have been influenced.

"To my sorrow, haredi society is not strong enough to shun such scoundrels," he said. "He committed a sin specifically prohibited in the Torah, using his father for protection. What the hassidim ought to do is not accept such a person as part of a minyan."

He added that the community involved is a particularly closed one, in which it would be possible for someone with a severe personality disorder to remain untreated because the members of the community would not appeal to outside experts for help.

Friedman said that it is difficult to decide in a case in which there was no physical evidence, but that just as one could say that the court was prejudiced against haredim, one could also say it was prejudiced against the secular, since the argument that a suspect had become religious was often used as an argument for mitigation.

"The court believed her and from what I know of the family, I also believe her," Friedman said. By singing and dancing in the courtroom after the sentencing, the members of this particular group were acting out the dilemma of haredi society, which sees the outside society as its enemy, plotting against it, Friedman said.

However, he added, it is the hassidim were not claiming that such a thing could not happen in their society. What they were saying, he said, is that in this case it was not true. The closest parallel, he said, might be the case of Kibbutz Shomrat, where four youths were eventually convicted of gang raping a girl from the kibbutz.



Workers yesterday prepare the Azrieli Center for the mall's opening to the public today.

(Ilan Olesendryer / Israel Sun)

## Tel Aviv's Azrieli Center opens to the public

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Massive traffic jams are expected today at the Derech Petah Tikva and Derech Hashalom junction, after yesterday's inauguration of the Azrieli Center — the largest shopping center and business complex in Tel Aviv and second largest in the Middle East.

The municipality approved the project opening to the public today at the last moment yesterday, after completing arrangements — including the widening of Rehov Givat Hatzmoshet, adding an extra lane to Derech Petah Tikva and adjusting the timing of the traffic lights in the area.

The Shalom Center, as it is referred to in Tel Aviv, consists of 30,000 square meters, 3,400 parking places, 150 businesses, eight cinemas, several restaurants, 16 entrance roads and 20 exit lanes.

The shops include the Parisian department store Galeries Lafayette, Mango, Nine West, Reebok, Kookai, Polgat, Benetton and others. A public garden will be planted on the third floor and an observation center on the 50th.

During the day yesterday con-

struction was in full swing at the center, as 15,000 workers labored against the clock to remove construction materials, cover open pipes and clean up the place.

The reason for the rush was to enable the anxious store owners to "make a bit" and catch the Pessah shopping spree.

When the project is completed, some 40,000-50,000 people are expected to visit it daily, including some 25,000 shoppers and 15,000 workers in the office high rises above the center.

The municipality's future plans for the project include broadening Derech Petah Tikva and Rehov Kaplan and building pedestrian bridges from the train station to the Shalom Center and from the center to the Kirya.

Israel Institute for Transport Planning and Research director Gideon Hashimshoni said smooth access to the Shalom Center depends on the development of a rapid transit system, which the authorities should have seen to before the project opened.

In the short term, Hashimshoni predicted "a slight worsening of the current situation but not a cat-

astrophe. If it's hard or inconvenient to get there, and if the parking isn't sufficient, people simply won't come. There's a balance in these things."

Hashimshoni said that the owners' investment of NIS 15-20 million in access roads will ensure that traffic disruptions will not worsen much in the immediate future. Also helping out will be that only the shopping center is open for now, not the offices, which will reduce the number of people coming in at first.

However, after that, smooth access depends on the development of the adjacent streets and building a rapid transit system, he said. "The large-scale construction now taking place on the Ayalon Highway and other changes must be based on a rapid transit system of public transport."

While the area around the Azrieli project is being developed, he said, "all the traffic passing through that busy junction will suffer. They [the authorities] should have seen to an efficient public transport system which would bring people to the center easily before the project opened."

## Rami Dotan denied parole

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Overturning a previous parole board's decision, a special review board decided yesterday that air force embezzler Rami Dotan does not deserve early release from prison.

A former brigadier-general in charge of procurement, Dotan was court-martialed in 1991 and convicted along with two others of bribery, fraud, and theft for skimming an estimated \$10 million from jet engine contracts with General Electric in the US. He was demoted to private and sentenced to 13 years' imprisonment.

The rejection of Dotan's request for release after serving half his sentence was based on new medical reports negating his year-old claim to be critically ill. The rejection also followed heavy opposition from the defense establishment and the air force, which continue to consider him a traitor.

After a parole board decided a year ago to free Dotan, the Defense Ministry and public groups petitioned the High Court of Justice to bar the move. The court suspended the decision and sent it back for a review by a second parole board headed by former Prisons Service commissioner Aryeh Bibi. Yesterday it unanimously overturned the previous decision.

"We examined the deliberations of the previous board, which spoke of illness, and we saw that a year has passed and nothing has happened; and other facts presented to us were different from the previous board," Bibi told Army Radio. "We decided not to release him."

The IDF said the board accepted a neurological report by Dr. Oded Avromsky, who said Dotan had not suffered two minor strokes cited in two medical reports submitted by Dotan to the previous board.

The new board also based its decision on new testimony regarding Dotan by Defense Ministry Director-General Ilan Biran and senior adviser David Ivry.

The board recommended a review of the decision to keep Dotan in isolation and a reexamination of his medical treatment, ruling he could ask for parole again in another six months.

But Dotan's attorney, Daniel Friedman, does not believe the parole board will change its mind. "After this kind of decision, there's little chance they'll change their mind in another half a year," Friedman said, adding he would consider whether to appeal after reading the entire 90-page decision.

Friedman said Dotan attended the board's announcement of its decision yesterday and was very depressed. "He didn't look good. He said a few things to me and thought a lot to himself, but made no statement. What could he say?"

The Dotan affair rocked the air force and defense industries and its ramifications are still felt today in the wariness of some US firms toward doing business with the IDF. Zvi Krochmal, who headed the investigation of the affair, said it is still costing the country.

"The damage that was caused to the state was not the \$10 million he stole," Krochmal said. "The damage is ongoing and very grave. Rami Dotan has cost the state hundreds of millions of dollars every year."

Krochmal said that because of the Dotan Affair, the resulting procurement monitoring system includes paying for inspection by a Pentagon body and not being able to buy products from discount dealers, which causes Israel to pay in full for equipment.

"When you are paying billions and not enjoying a 12 percent or 18 percent discount, and on top of that paying another 3 percent inspection fee that wasn't there before, then Rami Dotan is costing the state — from the time of the affair until today and most likely for many years ahead — hundreds of millions of dollars annually," Krochmal told Israel Radio.

Krochmal quoted air force officers as calling Dotan a "traitor."

## Kinneret 45 cm. lower than last year

By DAVID RUDGE

Mekorot will not be urging couples to take showers together to save water this year, despite the relatively low level of Lake Kinneret, the chairman of the Water Company's board of directors Doron Gruper said yesterday.

Gruper said the country's two other main water resources, the Yarkon Tanimim underground reservoir and the coastal aquifer, were in good shape and would be able to meet requirements this summer.

Nevertheless, Mekorot officials called on the public to be water conscious and prevent wastage, especially in view of the depleted state of the Kinneret.

The water level in the lake yesterday stood at 210.92 meters below sea-level — nearly two meters from its maximum mark and 45 centimeters less than the level at this time last year.

The water resources management committee yesterday decided to resume pumping from the lake into the National Water Carrier at an average monthly rate of around 22 million cubic meters.

This follows a marked cutback throughout last month during

which less than 10 million cu.m. was pumped from the lake into the water carrier.

Officially, pumping was dramatically reduced in order to enable maintenance work to be carried out on the water carrier, although this would probably have been deferred if the level of water in the Kinneret had been higher.

Heavy rain in the North last month, coupled with reduced pumping, helped improve the water level in the Kinneret, which rose 53 cm. in March — the largest rise in a single month for the entire winter. The water resources management committee — composed of experts from Mekorot, the Hydrological Service and the Water Commissioners Office — decided to continue normal pumping from the lake throughout the summer.

Mekorot officials said cuts in pumping would be made in October and November if it proved necessary to prevent the water level in the lake from sinking to the minimum mark of 213 m. below sea-level.

The officials noted that there was still a chance of further rain that could help further raise the water level in Lake Kinneret, although there was no hope of it filling to the brim.

## OC Navy: Women at sea for society to decide

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The only obstacle to women studying at the prestigious Naval Academy is a decision by society to open war zones to women, OC Navy Adm. Alex Tal said yesterday.

"In my opinion women are able and suitable to serve at sea, with all the difficulties that it entails," he said. Tal was speaking following a visit with cadets at the Naval Academy in Acre.

He noted that women currently serve as sailing instructors at the academy, and he was sure that if a decision is made then women could also attend the academy.

"I have no doubt that women can be accepted into and complete the naval officers' course," Tal said. "But it is society which must give its opinion whether we, society, are prepared for women to serve beyond the borders, set out on ambushes, serve in outposts, and on coastal patrol craft, missile boats, and submarines in enemy waters, exposed to all the dangers that male fighters are exposed to."

The High Court of Justice is currently hearing a petition by two Meretz MKs and four

women who are seeking to attend the Naval Academy.

Tal's comments were the first reaction to the petition since it was filed early last month. Women have been serving as sea instructors for over a decade.

Tal noted that women are already serving on navy tug boats and even filling command roles on them.

In addition, Tal said women in the navy also serve as coastal radar operators.

In a related matter, Tal said that the inquiry set up to investigate Sunday's accident in which a wave knocked over and critically injured an officer determined that the wave had actually knocked two officers overboard.

"What will be answered in the investigation is the question of how it happened that these two officers, who were working on the deck, remained there even after their task was done," Tal said.

IDF sources said that the injured officer had improved and is in serious condition. Doctors at Sheba Hospital, where he is being treated, said he is still in very serious condition.

## Sentencing awaited in NY yeshiva student's death

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK — Nearly seven years after the fatal stabbing of Yankel Rosenbaum in the Crown Heights riots, Lemrick Nelson was to be sentenced late yesterday in New York. Nelson, 22, was convicted last year on federal civil rights charges for the death of Rosenbaum, a hassidic scholar from Australia. He previously had been acquitted on state murder charges.

Rosenbaum, 29, was stabbed at least four times after being surrounded by a group of blacks in which someone screamed: "Kill the Jew!" at the beginning of four days of rioting in August 1991 in Brooklyn. The New York State

Health Department has determined that Rosenbaum died as a result of inadequate treatment of his wounds at Kings County Hospital Center.

The riots began after a driver in the motorcade of the late Lubavitcher rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Schneerson, accidentally killed a black child, Gavin Cato.

Charles Price, 44, who was convicted of having violated Rosenbaum's civil rights by inciting Nelson and at least 10 others in the attack, still awaits sentencing.

Norman Rosenbaum, the brother of the victim, and his parents, Fay and Max, had traveled to New York from Australia to address the court during Nelson's sentencing.

In a related matter, a settlement appeared imminent in the civil suit filed by residents of the Lubavitch enclave charging that the administration of former New York mayor David Dinkins had violated their constitutional rights by having "permitted, facilitated, and effectively condoned" attacks on Jews by rampaging groups of black youths.

New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani is prepared to apologize for the city's handling of the violence. However, Dinkins has accused Giuliani of knowing to the hassidic community, saying Giuliani's apology would send "a message that anyone with enough political clout can profit at the city's expense."

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# Ben-Porat finds Ta'as funding wasteful

Reports says that executives stayed in luxury hotels, abused expense accounts

By BATSHEVA TSUR

Senior officials at Ta'as - Israel Industries made an inordinate number of trips abroad, squandered large sums of money, and appear, in certain cases, to have infringed on ethical standards, State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat says in a report released this morning.

In 1995 and 1996, these officials averaged some 800 trips abroad, costing Ta'as \$2.4 million annually. The officials included members of the board, senior directors, and branch heads.

In several cases, they stayed at luxury hotels, sometimes paying up to \$600 a night. In a third of the cases checked, the trips were to destinations that had not been authorized by the director-general.

An examination of expense sheets revealed that certain expenses had been paid

for twice; there were sums which had been altered; expenses of spouses were included, as were expenses for private vacations.

Ben-Porat noted that the internal controller at Ta'as had over a 10-year period repeatedly pointed out that there were infringements, but that these warnings had not been heeded.

In some cases, the sums refunded to the officials amounted to NIS 8,000 a person, she said. Money was returned to officials for extending hospitality, although it was not clear in many cases whom they had hosted and for what purpose.

"It was not possible to check whether all the trips made by the former chairman of the board and the former director-general were on business," Ben-Porat stated explicitly.

Most of the trips, even short ones, were in business rather than economy class. Ta'as

had an arrangement with two travel agencies which handled all the trips without holding a tender, she added. Passports were handled by the company for numerous persons who did not travel for business purposes and even for those who were not employed by Ta'as. Not all the trips were with El Al, although there was a government decision to this effect.

An examination of trips taken by research workers on their study program fund also revealed that "the Ta'as directorate had ignored the fact that most of these trips were not utilized for study purposes. In many cases, personal expenses were also refunded for such trips, the report notes.

Ben-Porat called on the directorate to hold an immediate discussion on trips policy to ensure that it is in keeping with public standards. An investigation should also be carried out to see whether sums that

were paid out unnecessarily can be retrieved, she said.

The report also looked into other defense-related industries such as Elta electronic industries and Rafael, the authority for developing weapons systems.

"An end has to be put to the trips festivities for senior Ta'as workers," Yossi Katz (Labor), chairman of the Knesset State Control Committee, said in reaction to the report. "It is intolerable that the senior workers should stay at luxury hotels, while the rest of the workers at the company are being forced to tighten their belts."

Katz said the committee would discuss the issue after the Knesset recess.

Ariel O'Sullivan adds: Israel Aircraft Industries said that it is still studying the report. "We are still studying the report, but IAI will work to implement its findings," the spokeswoman said.

## HU geneticists discover new bacterium

By JUDY SIEGEL

A beneficial bacterium that produces a natural pigment and has many uses in food production, medicine, cosmetics, and biotechnology has been discovered by a Hebrew University research team in Jerusalem. The friendly microbe has been named *Paracoccus marcusii* for Prof. Menashe Marcus, who was a previous director of the university's genetics department.

The new bug was discovered by a research team headed by the same department's Prof. Joseph Hirschberg. Also participating in identifying and characterizing the bacterium was Prof. Aharon Oren of the department of microbial and molecular ecology.

The bacterium produces the natural pigment astaxanthin, which is a major natural component in the diets of many types of fish, including salmon and shrimps. The pigment is one of the carotenoids, a family of colors that produces intense yellow, orange, and red hues in many organisms. They are powerful antioxidants and thus considered to be beneficial food additives.

In nature, astaxanthin is produced by microalgae, which are eaten by various living creatures and passed up the food chain. In Scandinavian countries, manufacturers have started feeding it to chickens to get eggs with yolks of a richer color. In humans, the pigment has been found to play an important role in preventing cancers as well as promoting the immune system and preventing deterioration of sight.

Until now, natural astaxanthin has been extracted from crustacea and algae, which is an expensive process and whose production is limited. It can also be synthesized, but then it doesn't have the same molecular structure as the natural product.

The HU researchers discovered that the *Paracoccus marcusii* bacteria secrete the pigment outside of their own cells - a phenomenon that has not been observed in bacteria before. The pigment is produced in easily collectible bubble-like structures from which the color can be extracted in its natural form.

The researchers believe this method will lower the cost of astaxanthin and lead to its even wider application for food, cos-



Prof. Joseph Hirschberg of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem genetics department displays the new bacterium 'Paracoccus marcusii.'

metics, and biotechnology. However, additional research and development work will be needed before this can be achieved. The microbe has been flown to

the official European bacteria depository, which according to the Budapest Convention insures that commercial rights for the discoverer are protected. The universi-

ty's Yissum Research and Development Company has patented the process for manufacturing astaxanthin based on use of the new bacterium.

## '1/3 of road accidents caused by mechanical failure'

By JUDY SIEGEL

The percentage of road accidents caused by mechanical failures is greatly underestimated - mostly because the investigators look for human error and often don't send the vehicle for an examination of its mechanical systems. This is one of the findings of researchers at the Haifa Technion's vehicle and mechanical engineering lab.

Eli Krasny, one of the researchers, and Dr. Benjamin Landkoff, head of the metals institute, said yesterday that the Central Bureau of Statistics blames only 1 to 2 percent of road accidents on mechanical failures. But foreign studies show that they directly cause 10% of accidents, and in 28% of accidents cause more serious consequences than there should have been from pure human error.

The fact that vehicle maintenance and parts are so expensive here makes drivers more likely to neglect their vehicles than drivers in other countries.

The researchers maintained that only when police suspect that an accident involved mechanical error does the Transport Ministry ask the Technion's lab, which is run by its metals institute, to conduct a careful examination of the vehicle. The ministry and the Technion have a special agreement that allows such consultations.

"In most cases, we're asked to look only at vehicles involved in accidents of 'public' significance, such as when a heavy truck crashes into a schoolbus or a tanker turns over and leaks poisonous material," said Landkoff. "Using our computer program Crash 3 - which is the only one in the country - we can reconstruct an accident from data collected by measurements. Data analysis discloses the speed of the vehicles, the angle at which they crashed and other variables."

Krasny said that mechanical failures are the primary or secondary cause of 33% of all accidents abroad, and that Israeli reports from the field verify similar statistics here, although they are not reflected in official statistics.

"A bus driver who speeds down a hill on a curving road and causes his vehicle to turn over will be accused of negligence, and human error will be blamed for the accident. But if the brakes were in good condition, the accident could have been prevented even if the driver speeded."

Landkoff concluded that the minimal importance given by the CBS to mechanical failures in accidents reduces the authorities' tendency to investigate factors other than human error.

Toughening up supervision of vehicles, especially heavy ones, will help reduce the number of fatalities, the researchers concluded.

## MKs oppose beatification of pope Pius XII

By LIAT COLLINS

The Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee called on the foreign minister to instruct his representatives to request the beatification process of pope Pius XII be suspended, at a committee session yesterday on the Vatican's stand on the Holocaust.

The committee also asked the ministry to get the representatives to examine concentration camps to determine if appropriate memorials have been set up at them. Finally, the committee demanded the ministry call on the Polish government to remove the large cross placed next to the camp at Auschwitz.

The question of the Vatican's attitude to the Holocaust was raised by MK Anat Maor (Meretz) and Avner Shaki (National Religious Party) following the publication of its document on the subject.

"The document shows the church has taken a stand against those who deny the Holocaust and therefore should be praised," Maor said. However, she said the question of whether blame could be put on pope Pius XII still remains, along with that of whether the Vatican could be asked to take steps to prevent expressions of antisemitism and racism in the future.

Committee chairwoman Naomi Blumenthal (Likud) said: "The train which could lead to the beatification of pope Pius XII, who was pope at the time of the Holocaust and kept silent in the face of the horrors, must be stopped. Too many trains left on a journey from which they did not return in those days. History will not forgive us if we keep silent now about this [beatification] procedure."

Dr. Geoffrey Wigoder, one of the two Israeli representatives on the International Jewish

Committee for Interreligious Consultations with Christians, stressed the importance of the declaration by the Vatican in the document that antisemitism is a sin.

"The church which was once part of the problem of antisemitism against Jews has become part of the solution," he said.

On the papal silence during the Holocaust, he said the Vatican cannot be expected to condemn a pope.

Prof. Yitzhak Minervy, a former ambassador to Italy and the Vatican, expressed disappointment with the Vatican's document, saying it listed in a positive light a series of people who were actually linked to the Nazi regime but did not mention those in the Catholic Church who did take action against the Nazis.

"We didn't ask that pope Pius XII be condemned, but it cannot be that he appears as someone who fought racism," he said.

## Mordechai Olmert - An appreciation

Mordechai Olmert, 87, one of the most distinguished pioneers of Israel's land settlement and former member of the Second and Third Knessets, died at Meir Hospital in Kfar Saba on Monday and was buried at the Binyamina cemetery yesterday.

Olmert was born in Samara, Russia, but was brought up in Chargin, China, where he led the local Betar youth movement. He settled in Eretz Yisrael in 1933 and was one of the founding members of Irgun Zvai Leumi. Among his activities was a mission abroad to gather funds and arms for the Irgun ship *Altalena*.

In 1949 he became head of Herut's Land Settlement Department. Olmert was elected to the Second Knesset in December, 1955. In his maiden speech he pointed out that only 14 percent of the country's manpower was engaged in agriculture. Throughout his life he worked hard to change this situation by

increasing the number of settlements, such as Ajona - between Zichron Ya'acov and Binyamina.

He supported settlements which were failing due to insufficient planning and continued his search for increased agricultural exports. Active in public life, he dedicated himself entirely to agriculture in retirement.

A stickler for details, Olmert once won a suit against the Post Office, which had charged him for an uncompleted telephone call.

Olmert's wife, Bela, died in November, 1995. The mourners are four sons: Amram, former director-general of the Government company AgriDex; Yirmiyahu, brig-general (res.) and former head of Givat Shmuel Council; Ehud, MK and mayor of Jerusalem; Yossi, a former head of the Government Press Office and a well-known expert on Lebanese and Syrian affairs; their children, grandchildren and a huge family. Alexander Zvielli



Mordechai Olmert (Courtesy of Kol Ha'ir)

## Number of cars increase 5% in '97

The number of motor vehicles in Israel increased 5 percent last year to 1.617 million, the Central Bureau of Statistics said yesterday. The number of vehicles has doubled during the last 12 years, with the number of drivers rising 83%. During the same period, the kilometers of road increased by 21%. Of all vehicles, 76% are for personal passenger use, 17% trucks, and 4.5% motorbikes with the remainder buses, taxis, and special vehicles. David Harris

## NEWS

in brief

### No trains to Haifa Chemicals

Israel Railways Director-General Amos Uzani yesterday ordered that the rail line serving Haifa Chemicals be closed for repairs. He issued the directive after two separate accidents on the line in which freight cars carrying hazardous materials derailed, though the materials did not leak. The work is expected to take about three weeks. Jerusalem Post Staff

### Brothers caught with 2.5 kg. heroin remanded

Karem Latif, 34, and his brother, Isas Latif, 40, were arrested early yesterday morning after police found 2.5 kg. of heroin and what appeared to be stolen jewelry in their Haifa apartment. Police suspect the heroin was smuggled from Lebanon. Karem Latif told the Haifa Magistrate's Court that the drugs were his and that his brother was innocent, but the court remanded them both for six days. Itim

### Designer gets public service for tax evasion

Fashion designer Tovaleh Hassin and her husband, Amit, were sentenced yesterday by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court after having agreed to a plea bargain on tax evasion charges earlier this month.

The couple pleaded guilty to failing to pay NIS 1.38 million in income taxes in 1993 and 1996. The designer is the owner of a popular Tel Aviv boutique. Hassin failed to write receipts, while her husband hid the undeclared income in three bank accounts.

Hassin is to perform six months of public service, while her husband - who was also convicted of forging signatures to open the hidden bank accounts - was sentenced to 18 months in prison, 18 months' suspended, and fined NIS 150,000. Itim

### ACRI protests ban on 'Dakar' book

The Association for Civil Rights in Israel has written Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein to protest a ban on libraries from lending Mike Eldar's book on the missing submarine *Dakar*. The book *Dakar* and the *Story of the Submarine Division* was removed from stores by court order on security grounds, and thus cannot be lent by libraries, according to Shamai Becker of the Tel Aviv District Attorney's Office. Becker ordered the Netanya Municipal Library to stop lending the book.

"The letter is most serious both because it has no legal basis and because it is an attempt at grave interference in the public's right to know," ACRI wrote Rubinstein. Batsheva Tsur

### Argentina expects to solve embassy blast case

Argentine President Carlos Menem said yesterday he was confident of tracking down the people responsible for a bomb attack on the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires six years ago that killed 29 people. Menem said investigations were continuing into the embassy blast and a separate car bomb attack on the AMIA Jewish center four years ago in which 86 people died. Investigators have charged former Argentine policemen with helping to plan the AMIA attack, but not a single suspect is in jail for the embassy bombing.

"We are following several leads," Menem told a news conference in the Australian capital, where he arrived yesterday for a four-day official visit. "It is not easy to find those responsible, [but] I am sure that we will find a solution." Reuters

### Be extra careful at home during Pessah

Parents should keep poisonous cleaning products out of the reach of children, whose Pessah vacation begins today. Prof. Yona Amitai, a toxicologist at Hadassah-University Hospital on Mt. Scopus in Jerusalem, said that during the weeks before Pessah, the number of accidental child poisoning incidents triples. Most of the cases involve Jewish youngsters under the age of five who swallow medications, insecticides, cleaning materials and kerosene left out by parents doing the pre-holiday cleaning. Amitai said that in many cases, the poisons are left in unmarked containers or lying around, and children swallow them because they are left unsupervised in the home. Judy Siegel

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## Renegades boost Le Pen

**W**hat do I have to do not to be racist?" Jean-Marie Le Pen asked in one of his rants last year. "Must I marry a black woman? With AIDS?"

Well yes, it might help (AIDS unnecessary), but not if the woman shared this French bully's rabid antisemitism, which is the true mark of the man's racism. In the past year he has again called the Shoah a "detail of history," accused President Jacques Chirac of being part of a Jewish conspiracy, and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of being a "super-Hitler."

What a pity it is that we can't dismiss Le Pen as an unfortunate detail of history — another bad-mouth skinhead in a sleazy political bar. Until now support for Le Pen's National Front has hovered at around 15 percent in French politics. This comes from a sector of society that in the United States would be classified bluntly as blue-collar redneck. In France, these are areas of few jobs, low incomes and urban dereliction. Such places team with immigrants, mainly Arab or African, who provide a convenient visible punchbag of blame for the poor white majority — and fertile vote scavenging for the likes of Le Pen.

### The bore front

Fruitful hunting grounds for the National Front these may be, but for the rest of France they have always been unfortunate, hopelessly temporary, social backwaters which progress and prosperity eventually would overwhelm, as had happened in post-war Paris.

Chirac minced no words in describing the Center-Right alliances with Le Pen as "xenophobic and racist." The alliances took not only the government, but the usually alert French media, by surprise, since they emerged though that international super-bore — low level regional elections.

In general, the good news from the boredom front was that the Socialists and their allies grabbed 11 districts from the Center-Right alliance. But in some electoral regions, National Front council members were left holding the balance of divided power. Five candidates of the Center-Right French Democratic Union were elected to regional presidencies by the casting votes of the National Front.

What made France wake up with a jolt was the fact that one of those found in political bed with Le Pen was a former defense

minister, no less: Charles Millon.

### Tiger tamer

There's no such thing as a free breakfast with Le Pen. To accept an appointment by National Front ballots implies accepting Front policies both official (deport immigrants, fight European monetary union, seal the borders) and unofficial (antisemitism, xenophobia, conspiracy theories, security by skinheads).

### Column One



Thomas O'Dwyer

Two new Center-Right provincial officials did the decent thing and quit. Millon foolishly decided to ride it out, astride one of the oldest of political chestnuts — he would change the Front from the inside. He would pull its racist teeth, and deliver the hyena as a reformed pussycat into the arms of the mainstream French Right. Yeah, right!

Millon says if he doesn't tackle the Front from inside, one day the 5 million who support Le Pen will become 10 million and "one day we will have a presidential election with only two candidates, one from the Left and one from the far Right."

And guess which one Millon will be voting for?

Millon and his co-renegades skirt the issue of who exactly will be giving Le Pen a sufficient veneer of respectability to attract a critical mass of former moderate voters. Pass the man a mirror.

The real problem is that the mainstream Right in France is in a tailspin since Chirac shot himself in the foot by calling premature elections last year. But it is really a broad Center that is sorely lacking in French politics.

### Recruiting Center

For all its popularity, the Socialist government needs to take some serious action on the French economy because the best recruiting for Le Pen is being done not by a few renegade rightists but by the government itself. France's jobless statistics are the most depressing in Europe. Its main new immigrants are poor and talentless, its main emigrants are the finest brains in its elite colleges produce. Squashed into the middle, without a political Center to vote for, are those jobless, hopeless recruits for someone with simplistic answers and simple hatreds.

French voters have for years swung from Left to Right and back in their voting, seeking hope, seeking answers for their unemployed children. If the hope and the answers don't come soon, the trickle of minor regional officials into the web of the National Front could become a flood.

# The new Russian

The meteoric career of Sergei Kiriyenko, Yeltsin's controversial choice for prime minister, represents a wave of young, savvy, ambitious capitalists who now run Russia's economy



From shipyard engineer to banker to oilman to acting prime minister: Sergei Kiriyenko (AP)

By DAVID HOFFMAN

**MOSCOW** — The last prime minister of Russia, Viktor Chernomyrdin, was straight out of the old school, the elite of the Soviet Union, the nomenklatura. The first premier, Yegor Gaidar, was a radical reformer, an economist and a theorist.

But the man President Boris Yeltsin has nominated to be the next prime minister is the epitome of a generation that stood at the cutting edge of Russia's quest to become a market economy — and did something about it.

Sergei Kiriyenko, 35, chosen last week to head the fractious, weakened Russian government, has been in Moscow less than a year, first as deputy minister of fuel and energy, and later as minister.

His nomination is already under

fire from critics who say he lacks experience to be second-in-command of the troubled Russian state.

But Kiriyenko's career path, from a one-time shipyard engineer to banker and oilman, is emblematic of that taken by a wave of young, politically savvy, ambitious Russian capitalists and hustlers who now run the country's banks and conglomerates. They were young enough in the years of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to seize the liberalization that shook the old system, and to exploit it.

They were not the "red" directors who lorded over the Soviet factories. Nor were they innovative entrepreneurs, in the Western sense. Rather, in the late 1980s and early 1990s, they were fast-moving expeditors. They identified the colossal gaps opening

between the controlled, Soviet-era economy and the new, free one — and capitalized on the difference for all it was worth.

This technique, known as arbitrage, played on the weakness of the state and the haste of the young generation. Most of the bankers and industrialists who today form what is called the "Russian oligarchy" got their start this way.

Long before they were grabbing the state's most lucrative mines, factories and property, they were feverishly working as middlemen for oil, coal, steel, automobiles and anything else that could be bought low and sold high. They knew how to find a ton of cheap oil, for example, and sell it abroad for breathtaking profits.

"It's like the saying 'You don't have to break down an open door,'" said Alfred Volkov, profes-

sor at the Academy of National Economy here, who supervised Kiriyenko's work during a two-year management course at the school.

"There was a big difference between domestic and world prices, especially in energy. Any sale in the world market brought a lot of profits — and in 1992 it was crazy profits, absolutely crazy."

Kiriyenko originally intended to be a ship engineer. He had a diploma from the Gorky Institute of Water Transport Engineering, in the once-closed, heavily militarized Volga River city 255 miles east of Moscow that is now Nizhny Novgorod.

But in 1991, Kiriyenko won admission to the Academy of National Economy, under the leadership of Abel Aganbegyan, an influential adviser to Gorbachev during the early years of perestroika, or restructuring. Kiriyenko arrived at the Moscow school within weeks of the failed coup against Gorbachev, and just months before the Soviet collapse.

In the academy Kiriyenko, who was the youngest in his class, was told that only the most creative businessmen would survive. Oleg Protzenko, a professor who was then director of the management program, recalled, "Here in the academy, he learned the most important thing... We told students not to wait for any solution from the top, but to find an original solution."

Banking was one of the first sectors to be liberalized, and Kiriyenko wrote a monograph on how Russian banks could navigate the rough waters of the transition to a market economy. Hundreds of banks were throwing open their doors, many with dubious balance sheets.

In his tract, finished in 1993, Kiriyenko displayed a grasp of the no-holds-barred character of the nascent Russian market economy. He wrote that the main job for commercial banks in Russia was to build up capital using "any possible ways and methods."

He wrote that banks would have to be able to transfer massive resources to "offshore zones," which they did. He also foresaw that banking and politics were inextricably intertwined. "The most important task of commercial banks," he wrote, "is lobbying at all the levels of power."

Separately, Kiriyenko had taken another path characteristic of the new generation of Russian capitalists — the Komsomol, the youth league that long had been a training ground for the Communist Party.

Kiriyenko was a Komsomol

leader at the Krasnoye Sormovo shipyard in Gorky, a big submarine-building base. In the Gorbachev years, the Komsomol went into a membership tailspin but also became, for some of its leaders, an invaluable passage to the world of businesses.

"Komsomol became a beehive of activity," said Steven Solnick, a professor at Columbia University and author of *Stealing the State*, a book chronicling the demise of the Komsomol. "It served as a business school for the late 1980s generation of top bankers and financiers."

"Under Gorbachev, there were two economies, a controlled and a liberalized economy," he added. "Prices were state-set in one part, and not in the other. If you as a smart Soviet citizen could figure out how to move goods, money or services from the controlled sector to the liberalized sector, where you could sell it expensive, you cleaned up on the profits."

In politics, Kiriyenko was an active ally of Boris Nemtsov, the young governor of the Nizhegorodskaya region, who turned it into an early incubator for market reforms. After graduating from the Moscow academy, Kiriyenko and others founded Bank Garantiya, which was closely tied with federal and local pension funds. The bank's emphasis was helping the pension funds cope at a time when non-payments were growing and chaos gripped the economy. Kiriyenko said in a 1996 interview with *The Washington Post*.

Kiriyenko went on to become head of an oil company and came to Moscow last May to be deputy energy minister under his old friend Nemtsov, who was first deputy prime minister.

Last week, Yeltsin installed Kiriyenko as acting premier after abruptly firing Chernomyrdin.

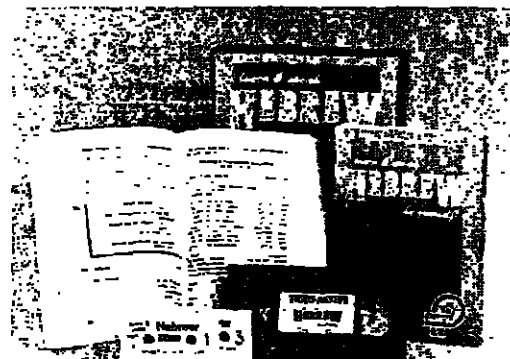
Moscow financiers, politicians and businessmen are puzzling over what kind of premier Kiriyenko will be if confirmed. He said last week he is not ashamed of his Komsomol years and that he admires some of the utopian ideals of Communism, although "it was only later that I understood it is impossible to implement them."

Monday, Kiriyenko said, he would like to dump the tired rhetoric of the past. "We should stop using such categories as 'increased plan' or 'greater volume of output,'" he said. "Let us speak about the amount of profit that we made. I like money" as a measure of how a company is working, he said. "I love money," he added, "extremely professionally."

(The Washington Post)

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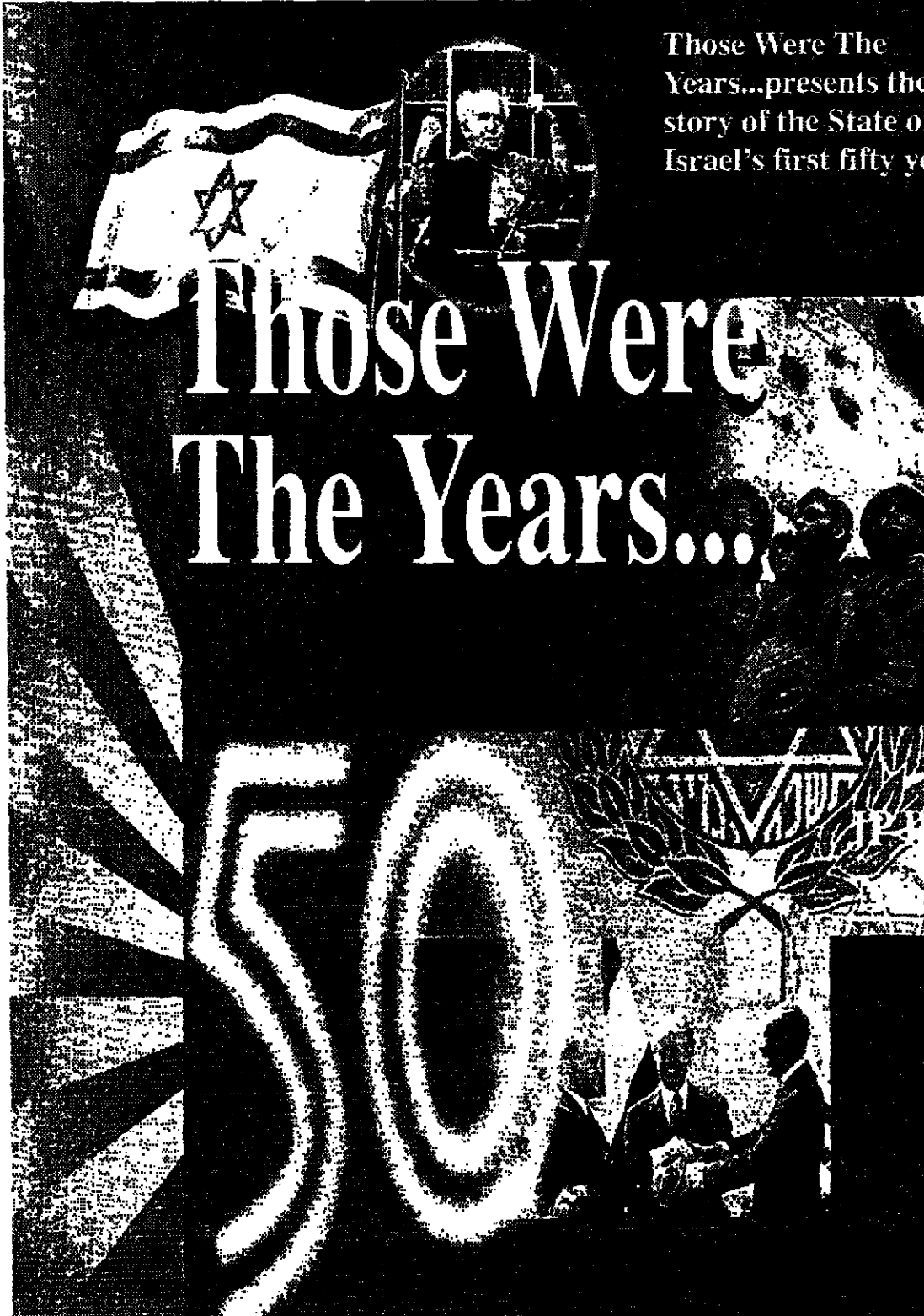
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המלך מן האל



# Oil prices fall despite OPEC move

## Armenian PM set to win presidency

By WILLIAM MACLEAN

VIENNA (Reuters) - A landmark OPEC decision to cut oil output for the first time in a decade quickly ran into trouble yesterday when traders judged the sacrifice too small and prices sank 3 percent.

But the producer club that pumps 40% of global output put a brave face on the market's no-confidence vote by predicting a rally when evidence emerged of supply restraint.

"The fall is hopefully a short-term blip. I think the market is overplaying the pessimism," said a top executive at a Gulf Arab oil company.

"Remember, this is a unique agreement with non-OPEC producers. We were able to get an

accord with Mexico and Norway when everyone said we couldn't," he said.

Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Ali Naimi said the accord reflected a new unity and pragmatism inside the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries. The cartel could take further action to support the market if necessary, he said.

"There were 11 angry men in a meeting and they came out as one. That is our message," he said. "It is not a flippant decision. It is not a phoney message to the market."

An emergency OPEC meeting that ended in the early hours approved a 1.245 million barrels per day (bpd) cartel contribution to a 2% cut in global output, its first reduction since the mid-1980s.

The rest of the sacrifice will come from non-OPEC Norway, Mexico, Egypt, Oman and Yemen, which pledge cuts of 270,000 bpd for a total of 1.5 million bpd in overall promised reductions. But oil traders were hoping for

which is still under UN sanctions imposed after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Traders say the output cuts could be threatened when an expected increase in Baghdad's UN-monitored Iraqi sales occurs later this year under an expanded program to obtain food and medicine.

A price fall of 40% from October to mid-March shaved billions of dollars off OPEC revenues and savaged oil company share values. The slump was caused by weak demand in cash-strapped Asian countries, a 10% rise in OPEC's 1998 production ceiling, a mild northern hemisphere winter and increased Iraqi exports.

An OPEC communiqué appealed to other non-OPEC oil exporters who have not yet offered

reductions to support the market by moderating output.

"The problem is the jury is still out on whether the Riyadh pact will actually change market sentiment. We probably won't have an answer for two to three weeks," said Peter Gignoux of the energy desk at Salomon Smith Barney.

Iran leant weight to the accord after the meeting when oil minister Bijan Zanganeh said his planned reductions would definitely remove Iranian oil from the market. Its approach to the pact's detailed implementation had been unclear until then. Iran has been unable to pump at its official quota level and there had been concern that it might seek to cut from that level, a move that would not have changed output.

By HASMIK HAKTCHYAN

YEREVAN (Reuters) - Armenian Prime Minister and acting president Robert Kocharyan looked well on his way to victory in the country's presidential run-off yesterday, after a vote marred by claims of irregularities.

With about 30 percent of the vote counted, the Central Elections Commission said Kocharyan had 62.55 percent of the vote to 37.45 percent for challenger Karen Demirchyan, according to preliminary returns.

The vote is under Western scrutiny because of concerns over past flawed elections in Armenia, which have soiled its democratic image, and its impact on the country's decade-long conflict with oil-rich neighbor Azerbaijan over territory.

Kocharyan supporters honked their car horns in celebration and several dozen of the deserted capital's central streets whistling and shouting after the first figures were announced.

Kocharyan, 43, was in jubilant mood at his campaign headquarters in the early hours of the morning, but said it was too early to claim victory.

"The results look outstanding," his spokesman, Aghvan Vartanyan, told Reuters.

Almost as soon as the vote began on Monday, backers of Demirchyan, Armenia's Soviet-era communist boss, accused Kocharyan's supporters of suff-

ing the ballot boxes and authorities of intimidating voters.

"There are massive violations going on across the country. We are getting more complaints than we can even keep up with," Demirchyan campaign chief Armen Khachataryan told reporters.

Kocharyan officials dismissed the Demirchyan camp's charges, which they said were designed to discredit the election. They said Demirchyan backers handed out anti-Kocharyan leaflets in violation of the law, which Demirchyan's campaign denied.

"Demirchyan's people are spreading rumors in order to cast a shadow over the election," Vartanyan said. He also said there were instances of ballot box stuffing by Demirchyan supporters.

Central Elections Commission officials confirmed they had received reports of irregularities during the day, and said they were investigating them. The commission said nationwide turnout had been about 55 percent at 9 p.m. on Monday, but gave no final official figure.

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), which has 150 observers in Armenia for the vote, reported widespread cheating in the first round two weeks ago.

OSCE observers confirmed they had received some reports of violations on Monday. But the OSCE said it would not judge the run-off until after the count.



### All that glitters is not gold

Seventies British pop star Gary Glitter, shown here in a December 1997 file photo, was charged this week with 50 offenses relating to child pornography. Glitter, whose real name is Paul Gadd, came under suspicion after a computer technician alerted the police after finding pornographic pictures on the singer's home computer. Gary Glitter was popular in Britain during the early 1970s, with hits such as 'Do You Wanna Touch Me' and 'I'm the Leader of the Gang (I am)', and continues to perform today.

(Reuters)

## EU hopefuls start admission process

By IAN GEOHEGAN

BRUSSELS (Reuters) - Five former communist Eastern European countries and Cyprus yesterday began the long and arduous journey to full membership in the European Union.

After the plaudits of a largely procedural meeting on Monday at which 11 EU hopefuls presented their credentials for joining the wealthy bloc, the six frontrunners finally got down to business.

"Today marks the formal start to the accession negotiations, the beginning of a series of inter-governmental conferences. They've had the pomp, now it's down to work," one EU diplomat said.

The road to full accession for Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Estonia, and Cyprus will be tough and long, with the first of the six not expected to join the bloc until 2002 or 2003 at the earliest.

While the EU hopefuls face years

of negotiation and reform at home to bring their economies and public administrations into line with EU norms, the bloc itself must radically restructure to prevent gridlock in a future EU of over two dozen member states and a single market of close to 500 million people.

This will involve some countries giving up coveted farm subsidies and regional development funds to the newcomers.

British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook, chairing the series of meet-

ings in his role as EU president, opened proceedings with Cyprus, saying he hopes the accession process would be swift.

Cyprus is a constant irritant between NATO allies Turkey and Greece, who almost went to war in 1996 over territorial rights in the Aegean Sea.

Turkey, left out of the EU expansion drive because of European concerns over its human rights record, the Kurdish conflict, and disputes with Greece, accuses the EU of tak-

ing sides in the Cyprus dispute.

Turkish Foreign Minister Ismail Cem raised the temperature on Monday by warning that the start of Greek Cypriot talks with the EU signalled a hazardous increase in tension in the region.

While officials from five other EU hopefuls - Slovakia, Latvia, Romania, Lithuania, and Bulgaria - have returned home to prepare for entry talks at a later stage, the favored six are already jockeying for pole position.

## Husband stabs wife on wedding day

PORT JERVIS, New York (AP) - A New York man has been accused of stabbing his bride to death on their wedding day during an argument at a post-reception party.

Luis Deleg, 27, was stabbed himself and fell through a second-floor window Saturday night during a struggle with relatives, who heard screams from a locked bedroom at the bride's apartment.

The bride, Tina Entwistle-

Deleg, 30, died after being stabbed below the eye.

Deleg was charged with murder Sunday while in the hospital. He was in guarded condition with a chest wound.

Partysgoers said the couple and their guests had been drinking heavily. The two began arguing when Deleg accused his wife of being interested in his cousin, said Lisa Quinones, the bride's sister and maid of honor.

## EU expansion sends Balkans to limbo

### ANALYSIS

was one of the few benefits of belonging to the same communist bloc.

"Unless NATO expands further, current prospects for EU membership suggest that a new dividing line could develop, not between the five in the EU first wave and the rest, but coming off southeastern Europe," a study published by Britain's Royal

Institute of International Relations warned this month.

"Bulgaria is in the most excluded position, being far behind in economic terms and also a long way from NATO membership," researchers Kirsty Hughes and Heather Grabbie wrote in the study "Enlarging the EU Eastwards."

The question is whether NATO sees Balkan instability as a reason to consolidate its southern flank by drawing in more new members, or a cause to pause for thought.

There is also concern that the

reform-minded governments that took office last year in both Romania and Bulgaria may have raised unrealistic expectations of how soon they can expect to join either NATO or the EU.

## ISRAEL LANDS ADMINISTRATION

Information is available by fax and phone (recorded message):

1. On construction tenders - 03-638 8883 (TeleFax)

2. On results of tenders - 03-6388363 (TeleFax)

3. On documents needed by the ILA, when dealing with various matters\*

\* Short term leasing of agricultural land, building additions, transferring rights, owner-occupier construction, etc.

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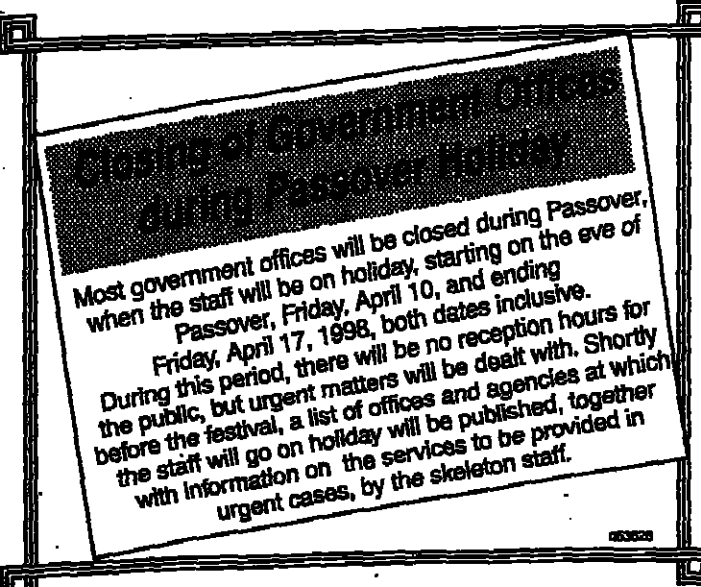
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Bids are invited from those interested in signing a three-year development agreement, following which the lessee will be offered a 40 year lease, with an option to extend for another 40 years, in respect of 38 plots for owner-occupier construction in Nehora. As shown in Urban Building Plan 36/Ket Mem/6, one housing unit of two floors may be built on each plot. On some of the plots, a basement may be built - all in accordance with the Urban Building Plan and its attachments. In addition to the amount bid, successful bidders will be required to pay: Development costs, as detailed in the tender booklet, to be paid to the Israel Lands Administration, per Makif Pituah Vetasheet. These costs are linked to the Index of Building Inputs for January 1998 (published on 15.2.98) and payment will be made on the basis of the last index figure published before payment is made - all as stated in the infrastructure construction agreement. (Appendix Zayin of the tender booklet).

The right is reserved to accept any bid and to reject all bids, including the highest. The tender booklet may be obtained, from April 6, 1998, on submitting a Postal Bank receipt for NIS250 (incl. VAT - cost per booklet) to be paid in cash only, demonstrating payment into the Administration's account 0-24180-0. The booklets are available at the Administration's offices at 216 Rehov Yafé (6th floor) Jerusalem, Tel. 02-531 8888, during regular working hours. A bank guarantee or bank check for NIS15,000 should be attached to the bid. Last date for submitting bids: May 28, 1998 (12 noon). A bid not found in the tenders box when it is opened at the above time, whatever the reason, cannot be considered. This notice is for information only; it does not obligate the Administration in any way - neither with regard to the text, nor the dates given. The Administration is bound only by the tender booklet and its appendices.

יש לנו מה לשפר לך





# Stay-at-home moms get a little respect

By KIRSTIN DOWNEY GRIMSLEY  
and R.H. NELTON

For all that working mothers may gain by having jobs outside their homes — money, intellectual challenges, health coverage, a sense of fulfillment — most people believe family life would be better if they could stay at home, according to a new national survey. And half of respondents said they respect mothers who do stay at home more than those who do not. A series of polls conducted by The Washington Post, Harvard University and the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation found that two-thirds of the people surveyed said that although it may be necessary for a mother to work, it would be better for her family if she could stay home and care for the house and children, even when the children are in their teens. The viewpoint was found among women and men, with half of college-educated professional women sharing it, and across age groups, with older people feeling most strongly about it.

Among people younger than 30 years old, 45 percent said they

respected the stay-at-home moms more. The sentiment grew stronger among older people, with 63% of those age 65 and older holding that view.

In dozens of interviews conducted for these articles, none of the survey respondents suggested that the nation should return to the patterns of the 1950s, when women who bore children were barred by law and custom from many workplaces. But many said they feared American families are not well served by the demands of today's business world, where men and women work increasingly long hours, without supports such as reliable, affordable child care that could help counterbalance those work demands.

Seeing little hope that their workloads could lessen, many respondents simply harkened to an earlier era and fondly described the ideal of women at home caring for children in an arrangement that seemed simpler and easier on families. But that longing surfaced in some of the same respondents who said they recognized that few families could survive on a single

income and that some mothers would be dissatisfied staying at home.

Catherine Giannakis, 37, of Harwood Heights, Ill., the mother of a 14-year-old son, is one of the respondents who said she respects at-home mothers more. Yet after being out of the work force for more than a decade, Giannakis recently decided to return to paid employment running the administrative end of her husband's trucking business, in part because she had grown tired of people cutting her dead in conversation when they realized she was a homemaker.

"I didn't feel good about myself, either," Giannakis said. "I felt like what I was doing wasn't good enough. Now I feel like I'm contributing to something."

But still she disapproves of other women working, on principle. "A lot of women who work don't need to work," she said, adding that their "jobs are more important to them than their families."

Such contradictions continue even as the number of working mothers grows. A recent study by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics

found that 77% of the mothers of school-age children are working, as are 62% of mothers with children younger than 6.

For most Americans, the question of whether to stay at home is a theoretical one. Respondents to the Post/Kaiser/Howard survey said the need for a second paycheck controlled the choice. The fact that women's paychecks are getting larger further complicates decisions: in about 1 in 5 dual-income households, the survey found, the wife makes more money than the husband. But in follow-up interviews, many people said accepting a family's smaller income by having a husband stay home was not a socially acceptable option for them.

"It's so difficult to establish new norms, especially when your political, educational and business institutions have not yet adjusted," said Stephanie Coontz, a family historian and professor at Evergreen State College and author of two books on modern families.

"Just look at the school day: totally out of sync with working parents. As a result, kids don't just

come home to an empty house but to an empty neighborhood."

For individuals and couples grappling with modern life, there are few clear-cut answers.

Judy Talley, 48, of Jackson, Mo., a poll respondent, is typical. She's a stay-at-home mom who has four children — three who are now adults and a teenager at home — and seven grandchildren. Talley's adult daughter and two daughters-in-law are all mothers who work outside their homes.

For herself, Talley prefers what she called the "peace and quiet" of home, instead of the "yucky-yucky" that goes on at work. And she thinks it is better for a mother, father and children if the mother is home to prepare dinner and create a comfortable family evening.

"The kids wanted me to stay home. It meant security for them," Talley said.

But she doesn't blame her daughter, who has a son in preschool, for working full time at a coat-hanger factory to help with payments on a house, car and utilities.

Mixed emotions make it hard for

the country to decide what's right for its children. People still view providing child care as an individual, rather than collective, responsibility, and the country is left without a coherent child-care policy, said Ellen Galinsky, president of the New York-based Families and Work Institute and an expert on day care. "There's no sense of shared responsibility in solving it," she said.

Eight months ago, Kathy Pernicario, 29, of Bay St. Louis, Miss., quit her job as a dental assistant to stay home to care for her three children, ages 7, 5 and 2. She had liked the job, though the days were sometimes long, and she was proud that it enabled her to afford private school tuition for her children.

In the back of her mind, though, she was worried about how being away might affect them. That anxiety was heightened by incidents involving other children. Two youngsters recently had brought knives to kindergarten, and police had started patrolling a local high school because of drug use.

Those episodes left Pernicario feeling "sad, really sad," she said.

"These kids are hurting. There's no one there to give them structure."

But when she decided to resign, the impetus came from her retired parents, who had been helping to care for the children, she said. When her dad called one day and said the demands of caring for the children were too much for them, Pernicario said, "the decision was made for me" to leave work.

But because Pernicario quit, her husband, Edward, 36, has had to work extra overtime at his job at a General Electric plant to compensate for the lost family income. And she has felt lonely with so many of her female friends continuing to work.

"I'm kind of jealous they get to work, but they're probably jealous of me getting to be here," Pernicario said.

Although working full time was untenable, Pernicario said, being home full time hasn't been blissful, either.

"Sometimes it's like me and the checkout lady at the grocery store," she said. "She's my only companion." (Washington Post)

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## Holidays out of Israel



# The stars come out for Pessah

By HELEN KAYE

Three times a year Israeli parents catch the What Will We Do With The Kids syndrome: at Succot, Hanukka and Pessah. Fortunately there's always lots to do for children, their parents and anybody else for whom spring has sprung, and this Holi Hamood Pessah is no exception.

For English speakers there's the 14th Annual English Drama Festival organized by EADI, English Amateur Drama in Israel, the umbrella association for all the country's amateur groups, except Haifa. There'll be 10 participating groups at Tel Aviv's Yad Lebanim Auditorium on April 12 and 13 with five different one-acts each evening and the Doris Kersner Award for the best production. Plays include *Once Through*, her fifth original festival play by the

Guild Theater's Jodi Schenk; *The Yesterday Man* from the Old Barn Theater of Orot; and *More of Loesser*, a musical cabaret from the Light Opera Group of the Negev. Info: (03) 629-1898.

More drama, for children this time, is the annual International Children's Drama Festival in and around the Haifa Theater from April 12-15. There will be some 112 performances of 21 different plays at close to a dozen venues. The big attractions are likely to be a monster sound, light, song, fireworks and other razzmatazz show at the Haifa Port in honor of the jubilee, an original rock opera called *Arti Touches the Sky*, and the wonderful street-theater group from Poland with its dragons and other lovable monsters. The Polish Panstowowy theater joins nine other street-theater groups which include Moshe Malca's *anarchic*

Zitzlanders, whose antics charm most viewers and alarm the faint-hearted.

The heart of the festival is the competition to find the best children's play of the year. Perhaps this year's crop of eight will rise above condescending to its young audience. The plays on offer include *The Insulted Heart*, *Cinderella* and *The Child Who Created the World*. Tickets and info from ticket agencies.

For the first time in its settled existence, the New Israeli Opera is on the move, and to the Golan, accompanied by the Ra'anana Symphonette, that dauntless little orchestra that's always game to go everywhere. The NIO presents some of our own and visiting singers in two programs at the Katzin amphitheater on April 12 and 13. The first program encompasses everybody's favorite arias

from popular operas such as *Carmen*, *La traviata*, *Rigoletto*, and *L'elisir d'amore*. The next night is all Mozart with arias and duets from such operas as *Don Giovanni* and a preview of the NIO's Hebrew-language version of *The Magic Flute*. The singers include Sharon Rostorf, Dani Ettinger and Suzanna Portitzky.

Moving down-country a bit, the beautiful (especially at this time of the year) western Galilee hosts the 10th Days of Music and Nature at Misgav, April 12-14. As usual there'll be musical ensembles lying in wait for walkers and hikers at strategic spots on 11 trails, as well as concerts in halls and even private homes. The genres go from classic to rock, and big names like Riki Gal and Rami Kleinstein (April 12) or Gidi Gov and Yehudit Ravitz (April 13) at the Misgav Park amphitheater coexist with such as the world premiere of *Pundak Haruhot* (The Inn of the Spirits), an opera cabaret by Moshe Zorman on Natan Alterman's play of that name.

There is also *Shesh Besh*, the premiere of a work which has IPO flutist Yossi Arheim, percussionist Chen Zimbalista, oud virtuoso Yair Dailal and bassist Masaryk playing Arabic music.

Then there's music by Vivaldi, Mendelssohn and Mahler. There are vocal ensembles, dance and puppet theater and, in short, a wealth of cultural events from some 400 artists. Info and tickets from agencies. Also (04) 980-1333/444, the festival HQ.

You might say that the adage "different strokes for different folks" is really apt when most of the Pessah festivals all start on April 12, as does the Dead Sea Festival. This festival, as its organizers always point out, takes place at the north end of the Dead Sea in the Kalya region.

The undoubted attraction of this one is a tripartite concert by the Banai brothers, Meir, Yuval and Ehud, who is also the festival's music adviser. Other highlights include the debut show, with guests, by Micha Sheerit following the launch of his solo CD, Meir Ariel hosting such as Charisma and Shalom Hanoch, and the Portuguese group Madredeus.

The 11-year-old ensemble, whose music celebrates its native land, performs at the Qumran Amphitheater (April 14) and at Theater North in Haifa (April 15).



'Cinderella': A candidate for best children's play of the year

and the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv (April 19). The most popular band in Portugal, Madredeus is currently on a world tour.

The festival also hosts the newest Banai sensation, Eviatar, an evening of drumming and drummers, as well as three new young groups, Gaya, Aura and Ezev Bar.

The Dead Sea Festival also has a spiritual context. Men and women, separately and together, can participate in three workshops on heroism (men only), love (women) and Tantra (both sexes). There are also activities for the whole family. The festival runs through April 15. Tickets and info at agencies.

Back in Tel Aviv there's *Avoda Ivrit* at Suzanne Dellal from April 12-14. The title, whose literal meaning is "Jewish labor," is a sardonic comment on what has all

but disappeared. The program, which collects luminaries such as Dani Sanderson, Ronit Shahar, and Barry Sakharoff, celebrates Israeli rock, blues, humor, love, the country and poets. Info: (03) 510-5656 and agencies.

Only the Song Festival at the Holon Theater is different. It runs from April 13-15 and celebrates Hebrew song in all its generations. Israel Prize winners Yaffa Yarkoni and Ehud Manor will appear in a program of Soldiers' Songs, the Gashash Hahiver will present some of the songs that have accompanied the fab three's skits in the more than 30 years of making us laugh, and Corinne Allal will sing, among the rest. There are some 11 major events and six lesser ones. Info and tickets at agencies. Also (03) 503-7779 which is festival HQ.

As far as I am concerned, all these pianists will, in a few years, perform with orchestras so they will have little opportunity to showcase their sheer virtuosity; they will have to delve deep into Beethoven, Brahms and Mozart.

Mere virtuosity for its own sake, he says, means very little here. "This is why the finals with the orchestra will be most important for the ultimate decision. This is where we will see and hear who can really become a major concert pianist."

"From what I have heard until now, it will be a very tough choice to make."

Segal adds that perhaps because he is not a pianist himself, "mere virtuoso pieces say very little to me."

But I have always liked the piano repertoire, so for more than two weeks I was able to listen to a lot of piano works which were quite revealing and most enjoyable.

And, he confided, "a conductor is a very lonely man. Being here with all the members of the jury for such a period is a real joy and a very welcome change."

## Virtuosity vs. true talent

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Tonight at around 11 at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv, the members of the jury of the Ninth International Artur Schnabel Piano Master Competition will gather to decide the winner of this year's competition.

It will not be an easy task. The previous choices of this particular jury (when deciding who of the pianists would move to the second and the final rounds) left a lot to be desired.

One can only hope that from the six remaining pianists in the competition, the first three awards will go to the best pianists, otherwise it will be a real shame, if not an embarrassment.

While most of the jurors are notable pianists and piano teachers, some still enjoy an active international career. Israeli Uriel Segal is the only conductor among them.

"I bring my personal experience as a conductor. I have listened to numerous auditions throughout my career, be it for soloists or musicians wishing to join an orchestra."

"And I must say that apart from the fact that I am really enjoying myself, there are some very good pianists here who did not reach the final round whom I might very well decide to engage later on for some project or another."

Segal says that he tries to "deal with each competitor in his or her own right, with as little comparison as possible, at least to begin with."

But he adds that "for example, if I hear a pianist who is 30 and has reached the limit of his development who might at this point be better than a talented young pianist who is still developing, I think the younger one would be more worthy of nurturing and pushing forward. That is natural because we really want to develop talent."

Segal says the major thing he looks for when hearing so many pianists is "the right balance between virtuosity and artistic personality - and these two things don't always go hand in hand."

"As far as I am concerned, all these pianists will, in a few years, perform with orchestras so they will have little opportunity to showcase their sheer virtuosity; they will have to delve deep into Beethoven, Brahms and Mozart."

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All in the family: Banai brothers (from left) Meir, Yuval and Ehud perform at the Dead Sea.

(Hanan Grigori)

## Dark journey of the soul

CLASSIC DISCS

Mirella Freni is a wonderful soprano, a singer whose musicianship is impeccable, a singer whose voice sends shivers down your spine whenever she performs. And although she is no longer an ingenue, Freni can still captivate you as the young Mimì or even the younger and much more naive Michaela.

Here (Verismo Arias: Mirella Freni, Orchestra del teatro La Fenice, Roberto Abbado, Decca 433 316-2), Freni presents a selection of 14 arias which are quite unfamiliar operatic fare. Granted there is one Puccini chestnut here and several other familiar tunes, but the rest is operatic material we do not often hear.

Who has heard of the opera *Lodoletta* or *Risurrezione*, for example? Who is familiar with the musical language of *Iris*?

Freni takes us on a dark journey of the human soul, presenting a series of tormented beings, women who are unhappy with their lives.

Freni's voice is suited perfectly to the verismo style. There is this dark overtone with which she imbues the various characters, which makes the performance so much more credible.

Yes, Freni can sing a pretty tune too, but on this occasion she

brings us the best of lyric dramas which are not that often presented on the stage, dramas which are not essentially about pretty melodies.

In a way, the most disappointing selection of the disc is the final one. After the somber overtone of the entire disc, the producers and Freni probably wanted to end it on a brighter note. But the choice of "O mio babbino caro" from *Gianni Schicchi* is somewhat mistaken. Puccini's Lauretta is rather different from any of the other characters we meet here, and so is her aria. And Freni sings it in a much darker manner than it calls for, in tune with the disc but less so with the opera.

Freni is quite mesmerizing when she tackles Santuzza in *Cavalleria rusticana*. The agonizing aria of a woman who years for love and for life yet realizes that she is betrayed is captured to perfection, and I have no doubt that Freni would prove a most towering Santuzza on stage.

Freni manages to take us into the heart and soul of Adriana Lecouvreur in the Cilea opera of the same name, and the protagonist's aria from Zandonai's *Francesca da Rimini* is mesmerizing as well. And there is also that beautiful lush moment when she sings the famous aria from *La Wally*. Unfortunately, she avoids the aria of Nedda from *Pagliacci*, which would have been perfect on this disc.

What is the lesson, though, in

this disc, in which Freni is accompanied by the warm sound of the La Fenice orchestra under the passionate baton of Roberto Abbado? Several lessons could emerge here.

First and foremost, that a mature singer has the right to record anything she deems worthy for her voice. Not many singers would dare present such a disc; but with Freni, even Decca was probably sure this was the right thing to do.

Real opera buffs will look for complete recordings of Catalani's *Lorelei*, Mascagni's *Iris* and *Lodoletta* or Cilea's *L'arlesiana* in order to find out if the arias that Freni sings are characteristic of the work as a whole or if they are single jewels in a more dreary operatic environment.

And as for the material itself, it makes us wonder if the verismo approach to opera worked or not. In many respects it did because it brought to the opera stage characters that are much more realistic, because it made us look at these characters as real human beings and not just operatic curiosities.

Yet the fact remains that most of the operas represented on this disc are not such masterpieces and have not really survived the test of time.

So who is the winner? At least with this disc we see, when we listen to a great soprano sing with all her heart and captivate us with material we would probably have never heard otherwise.

## A cantorial renaissance

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

Half a century ago and more, popular singers such as Richard Tucker and Jan Peerce also drew audiences to cantorial music because it was on this style of music that they had been weaned before they branched into opera, light classics and folk music.

For some years, this style of music was confined mainly to the synagogues, but of late it seems to have regained a following.

"There's a great renaissance of cantorial music in concert halls," says Richard Shavei-Zion, director of the Jerusalem-based Ramatayim Men's Choir, which will be performing at the Mofet Cultural Center, Ra'anana, tomorrow night alongside internationally acclaimed cantors Ya'acov Moizzen of Toronto and Chaim Adler of Israel, as well as Colin Shachar, a talented baritone from South Africa who now lives in Ra'anana.

Whereas the first half of the 20th century was the golden age of *hazzanur*, or cantorial music, says Shavei-Zion, today's cantors and choirs are singing from the repertoires of such world-renowned cantors as Yossele Rosenblatt, the Koussevitzky brothers, Sirota, Kwartin, Glanz, Genshaw and Malavsky. There are a lot of good, active cantors giving concerts and ensuring that as a concert form, *hazzanur* is alive and well, says Shavei-Zion.

How does he account for its revived appeal?

"The beauty of it," he replies without a moment's hesitation. "The texts are eternal. The music is relatively sophisticated and classic, and some of the works have been sung for over 100 years."

Composers such as Lewandowski, Sulzer and Alkan span the generations, he adds, noting that some cantors also composed their own music or had their own interpretations of other people's music.

Shavei-Zion has been singing in choirs for over 30 years. He began conducting at age 18 and has directed choirs in South Africa and Israel.

He began contributing to the local music scene soon after his arrival in Israel in 1981.

Several of the other South African immigrants at the Gilo absorption center in Jerusalem were musically inclined, so they all got together and gave a more harmonious note to the absorption process.

Music-making continued when Shavei-Zion moved to Eilat and again when he moved to the Jerusalem neighborhood of Ramot in 1994.

Several music enthusiasts who had been in choirs in South Africa, Britain and the US suggested getting together to exercise their collective talents. "There was no intention of forming a serious choir," recalls Shavei-Zion, "but once we started performing we were invited to synagogue services, weddings and other functions."

The Ramatayim choir, which

## Up in smoke

By ALEC KLEIN

Leaders of the US cigar industry have pledged to stop placing their products in movies and on TV, a controversial practice that has come under mounting attacks from members of Congress and anti-tobacco organizations fearful of the impact of Hollywood on children.

The board of directors of the Cigar Association of America, the industry trade group whose members produce more than 95 percent of cigars sold in the US, has amended its guidelines on advertising standards to "admonish" its members to halt the practice, which cigar makers had employed in such high-profile films as *Independence Day* and the television show *Friends*.

"You can't convince me that watching Will Smith or some young actor on *Friends*, isn't a powerful example to a young boy or girl, to start the habit," said Rep. Edward Markey, Democrat-Massachusetts.

Aided by product placement, cigars have flourished on screen. Actors lighted cigars in 51 of 133 movies with a domestic box-office draw of more than \$5 million in the most recent film survey by the American Lung Association.

Teenage cigar smoking is also on the rise. In 1996, about 6 million 14- to 19-year-olds nationwide reported smoking a cigar the previous year, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently announced. (The Baltimore Sun)

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## Ross's mission

The Arab-Israeli peace process is certainly not for the impatient. Once again, Dennis Ross has come and gone, and the much-anticipated breakthrough was as elusive as a warm, sunny day last month. Even the chorus of doom is part of the process, creating a crescendo of pressure, exhaustion, and frustration that seems necessary before every fiftieth step forward.

Most of the public focus is on a single number: the percentage of territory that will be transferred to Palestinian control under Israel's second redeployment. As contentious as this number is, the range has been narrowed so significantly that it is hard to imagine that the deal is really hanging upon it.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's problem is that the entire range being discussed – 10 to 13 percent – is beyond the 9.5 percent that was left outside of "map of interests" adopted by the cabinet. And at the same time Netanyahu is expected to sell the idea of reducing areas defined as vital security interests, he is also being asked to whittle down the cabinet's exhaustive list of Palestinian compliance requirements.

It is really this second matter, the question of Palestinian compliance, that holds the key to a breakthrough. During the Ross mission, the government seemed to be inching toward the very, but not officially, public US figure of 13.1 percent for the anticipated Israeli withdrawal. But there was no corresponding hint from the Palestinian side that any of the critical compliance issues – such as increasing security cooperation, ending the "revolving door" for terrorists, and reducing the size of the police force – would be seriously addressed. On the other hand, Netanyahu has not projected a sense that, if the Palestinians are forthcoming on compliance, Israel will be able to redeploy more generously.

So far, it is the Palestinians that have the upper hand in the usual game of hot potato, where both sides work not to get caught with the blame for stalling the peace process. This is a nifty accomplishment, given that the Palestinians have not officially accepted the US bridging proposal. They have succeeded in projecting this positive aura by hinting at what they would accept: a 13 percent withdrawal, a commitment to a third redeployment, and a total settlement freeze.

This Palestinian stance is neatly positioned between what the previous government might

have accepted and what is safely beyond the pale for the current government. Netanyahu, too, can play the game of accentuating the positive by declaring that, if the Palestinians open a new page regarding compliance, their efforts will be matched by Israeli flexibility regarding territory.

The problem, of course, with the formula of compliance-for-territory is that compliance is easily reversible, while territorial concessions are not. But this is precisely the problem with the Palestinian approach to the agreement: security cooperation has been treated as a bargaining chip, rather than as an unshakable pillar of the agreement.

In the Knesset yesterday, OC Military Intelligence Maj.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon testified that the Palestinians are combating terrorism on an erratic basis, rather than systematically. The chance explosion of a huge car bomb on Sunday in Ramallah, thought to be intended for the center of an Israeli city, is a dramatic reminder that the threat of terrorism is not theoretical.

If the Palestinians still think that keeping the threat of terrorism alive by withholding security cooperation plays to their advantage, they are misreading the shift in the political landscape that has occurred since Netanyahu came into office. The "not one-inch" crowd has essentially been eliminated. Even the NRP ministers, who have staked out the cabinet's right wing, have bought into the compliance-for-territory formula.

Palestinian non-compliance plays into the hands of Israel's Right, while a marked improvement in security cooperation would further marginalize them and make a compelling argument for a generous redeployment. The United States, too, is making a mistake if it does not challenge the Palestinians to deliver on compliance at least as concretely, publicly, and unmistakably as it challenges Israel to deliver territory. While Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's keeping a tough speech in the holster is a fine tactic, even a nominally balanced speech is likely to translate into lopsided pressure against Israel. This could easily backfire by making it harder for Netanyahu to deliver and by reducing the Palestinian incentive to move toward Israel. A better idea is to send Dennis Ross back to continue his slow but fruitful work, and to find ways to make Palestinian compliance as measurable and irreversible as Israel's territorial part of the bargain.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### AN EMBARRASSMENT

Sir, – I enjoyed reading Bernard Wasserstein's article "Feeding the crocodiles" (March 23), appropriately enough in the toilet. He expressed the classical attitude of the self-hating Jew, the fawning servile lackey.

Sample: "Israel's prime minister has descended to the level of history's most perverse grandstanders – Idi Amin, Muammar Gaddafi and Benito Mussolini..."

He continues with: "The mob of termites who call themselves Women in Green should pause and reflect..." and similar insulting depictions. He also expects us to fall down in abject gratitude to

"the two powers that were ready to confront Saddam with more than words..." (so why didn't they?)

It may also be opportune to remind Prof. Wasserstein, the historian, no less, that the reason the present crisis came about because the anti-Saddam alliance failed to finish the job in 1991. Had they done so, none of the present problems would have arisen.

As for "even the Ugandan dictator had some capacity for distinguishing between friends and enemies. The posturing paranoiac currently in charge in Jerusalem outdoes even the world's most

self-destructive demagogues..." Who, indeed, Prof. Wasserstein, is paranoid? How can you even compare tyrants and killers like Amin, Gaddafi and Mussolini with the freely-elected prime minister of a thriving democracy?

Kudos to the editor for publishing this article, we need timely reminders how ugly the self-hating Jew can be; we can shrug off the antisemitism, but a Jew such as Prof. Wasserstein is a real embarrassment.

JOE FRANKL

Savoy.

### THE GREAT BANK FRAUD

Sir, – April 1 has arrived and the monthly bank fraud will commence once more. Here's how it works. Today, the mortgage payment is taken by the bank. Tomorrow, April 2, the credit card companies take their slice.

Sometime after that, salary checks arrive. The result of this fraud? Tens of thousands of households plunge into overdraft or see interest on their deposit accounts vanish.

Some undoubtedly see other payments or checks bounced by their respective banks who always make sure their own claims are met before any others.

The cost in interest paid to banks, or loss of interest on deposits paid by banks runs into thousands of shekels. This is money taken from customers by a cartel of organizations who know how to hold the public to ransom.

The answer? Demand flexibility

of dates for the claiming of mortgage payments and credit card balances on a basis related to the customer's salary date.

So simple! Banking systems throughout the world can cope with this process. So let's start pressuring the banks and credit card companies now!

PETER COBRIN

Binyamina.

### CREDIT DUE

Sir, – It is wonderful that the film *The Long Way Home* won the Oscar for best documentary but Mark Harris should have credited author Meyer Levin with giving him a big assist. All the documentary on the survivors leaving Europe "illegally" comes from the late Meyer Levin's film *The*

*Illegals*. It is not enough that the father of Anne Frank allowed himself to mislead Meyer. Now nearly 45 years later, books are proving that what Levin said about a left-wing mafia in the arts is true.

I hope Mark Harris will have the decency to make sure that the

copies now in use will be changed and new ones will give Levin the credit he deserves for having had the foresight to make that much used but rarely acknowledged film.

MURRAY GREENFIELD

Tel Aviv.

## FROM OUR ARCHIVES

50 years ago: On April 1, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported that the UN Security Council voted unanimously for a cease-fire in Palestine. The Jewish Agency, however, declared that the Jews could not accept a truce in Palestine if it meant abandoning Partition. Mr. Moshe Shertok, Political Representative of the

Jewish Agency, bitterly attacked the move by US to abandon the two-state plan and propose a trusteeship and demanded that "if there was to be a truce it must involve the withdrawal of those Arabs who had crossed into Palestine since November 29, 1947."

25 years ago: On April 1, 1973,

*The Jerusalem Post* reported that terrorists planted bombs and a number of persons were wounded in explosions at the Hadra bus station, in Jaffa Road in Jerusalem, and in Nabulus where a bomb was discovered and dismantled in an Egged bus.

Alexander Zvielli



## An old plan

It has been said that history is the history of missed opportunities. This is certainly true.

For example, Jews could have, en masse, immigrated here after the Balfour Declaration or the Six Day War. Were 10 percent of the more than 500,000 Jews who fought in WWII to join the fight in Palestine in 1948, the results would have been different. "So," says Ezer Weizman, "bear the consequences of your deeds or the lack thereof." He's right.

Where the Arabs are concerned, the same philosophy should apply. They were not satisfied with the severance of Trans-Jordan in 1921-2 or the Golan Heights in 1923. They did not even accept the Peel Commission's partition plan, accepted by the Jews, that left the Zionists with a mini-micro state between Tel Aviv, Haifa and the Jezreel Valley.

They did not accept the UN partition plan of 1947. They broke the 1949 Rhodes Armistice Agreements on the morrow of their signature. Egyptian president Nasser broke his 1957 cease-fire accord in 1967, starting the Six Day War. The Syrians broke over 400 cease-fire agreements signed between 1948 and 1967.

So, is the issue really "territories for peace"? Let's assume, in spite of all evidence, that it is.

We face a situation where an exasperated US is about to coerce Israel to return to the same lines they guaranteed before 1967, "with minor modifications" – a guarantee they reneged on.

The issue deserves a general survey.

For 1967 borders, a 1967 security policy should be accepted as a "datum line" – a basis for setting policy. Back in February 1967, then-deputy premier Yigal Alon issued a defense policy statement in which he stated loud and clear that, in view of the crushing Arab superiority in size and armament, Israel is entitled, if need be, to take the initiative and preempt by surprise, so as to survive.

Note that since May 15, 1948,

### YOASH TSIDDON-CHATTO

no major war has been fought by Israel with the Arabs of Western Palestine, who ceased being an organized force. All major wars since then have been fought with various pan-Arab coalitions, whose threat is existentialist, the main reason for a "defence imperatives map" to this day.

But since Alon's policy statement, a number of facts have changed.

First, in the spring of 1967, both the US and UN reneged on their formal obligations, i.e. guarantees of the Sinai demilitarization and freedom of the seas.

### Israel's aims are survival, while the declared pan-Arab goal is Israel's elimination

US, UN or other third-party guarantees, therefore, are of a temporary nature, not to be accepted as building blocks for a permanent peace.

Also, in 1967, then-premier Eshkol projected "weakness." Nasser became overconfident due to his huge Soviet arsenal and a belief in his own charisma. He adopted a policy of brinkmanship and took one step too far. The conclusion here is that solid deterrence is a sine qua non for peace with totalitarian states.

Moving on to 1973, the Israeli government erred in its assessment of Arab threat, an error that ended in the Yom Kippur nightmare. From this we can conclude that any peace agreement has to prevent a government error from becoming a death warrant.

And since 1967, the Arab order of battle has dramatically increased. Syria, for instance, had 97 fighter aircraft in 1967, 326 in 1973 and 480 planes plus 100 attack heli-

copters in 1996. It had 1,300 tanks in 1973 and 4,800 in 1996. It had a few short-range ballistic missiles in 1973 and over 600 longer-range SCUDs (plus a manufacturing facility) in 1996/7, etc.

Roughly the same rates apply to other Arab states. The Arab/Iranian arms purchases account for 42 percent of the world's arms trade, about 2,800 percent more, per capita, than anybody else. This rearming did not slow down during the 1993-1996 Oslo euphoria. Does this mean anything?

BUT despite all these vast changes in Arab military strength and the huge technological advances in weaponry, the US, with Europe in tow, is seeking to revive the old Rogers Plan that Israel could not accept before.

Due to Arab acquisition of SAM missiles, Israel has lost the element of surprise, because the air force has to spend one to three days "clearing" these missiles before launching a major operation, thus giving Israel's intentions away.

But the Arabs maintain their 1973 equivalent of surprise pre-emption, being able to stall Israeli reserve mobilization through ballistic missile bombardment of urban centers and PA guerrilla activity.

Confronted to its 1967 lines, Israel would face the largest concentration ever of efficient firepower per kilometer of front, and of missiles per square kilometer of surface, not to mention weapons of mass destruction.

Nobody doubts President Clinton's friendship to Israel, but US political expediency and a misunderstanding of the Middle East map may, when considering the present day Arab arms build-up, bring about an unpalatable solution.

Remember, Mr. Clinton, that when the fog clears from Foggy Bottom rhetoric, the facts are that Israel's aims are survival while the declared pan-Arab goal is Israel's elimination.

## Jubilee fairy tale

RUTHIE BLUM

Once upon a time there was a little girl who lived in the land of Persia. Unlike most of her countrymen, this little girl was a Jew. One day her parents told her that the time had come to leave the land of Persia and set sail for the Land of Israel. The little girl frowned.

Do not fret – they soothed their curly-locked eight-year-old – in the Land of Israel, bananas grow on trees. The little girl's dark eyes sparkled. Nothing was more precious to her palate than bananas. And few things in Persia were as rare, or as dear.

Indeed, the little girl would find solace in the special yellow fruit when she landed on the shores of the Land of Israel – a land so foreign. A land which her parents promised was their true home. And their hope.

The children in school spoke a language she did not understand. In the schoolyard, they smiled as they chanted "Parsi, Parsi!" [Persian girl, Persian girl] while she sat alone on a stool longing to fit in.

The little girl then grew to be a young woman with the voice of a nightingale.

The land of Persia became but a vague memory to her. Bananas became as any other fruit. In schoolyards throughout the land, children smiled at the dark-eyed woman as they chanted "Rita, Rita" while she stood alone on stage basking in their worship.

YEARS passed. The Land of Israel busily began preparations for a celebration the likes and finery of which the people of the Land had not known.

Stacks of gold were allocated for the festivities by the king's ministers. A messenger was sent

### The anthem of the people could not be sung by a more suitable nightingale

to the young woman's court to request that she grace the gala festivities in Jerusalem with her presence, and give honor to the anthem of the people of the Land by blessing it with her vocal virtuosity.

With them they brought 20,000 bars of gold. The curly-haired, dark-eyed woman consented, honored to be selected to sing the praises of the Land. A land which had once seemed so foreign. The Land which was her true home, as it was the home – and hope – of Jews the world over. The land of milk and honey. And bananas.

The kingdom rejoiced at her consent. The anthem of the people could not be sung by a more suitable nightingale, they cried in unison. One who came from the land of Persia. One who had been brought to the Land of Israel by virtue of the hope which was the anthem's message: *Od lo avda tikvatu* – "Our hope has not yet been lost"; *Hatikva bat shnor alpayim* – "Hope held for 2,000 years"; *Lhiot am hofshi beartenu* – "To be a free people in our homeland"; *Eret Zion Yirushalayim* – "The land of Zion, Jerusalem."

But all was not well. Whispering began in the kingdom, instigated by one of the king's ministers and spread by other nightingales – about the sacks of gold to be awarded the young woman with the dark curly hair. A nightingale, she may be, but she was not a Jew. Such buzzers her detractors, but such recompense for singing the anthem of the people? When talented singers in the land were many and gold so scarce?

So wounded was the young woman upon hearing the rumors of her greed that she appeared before the people of the Land to proclaim her inability to "sing the anthem of hope with an abundance of love, the way [she] had wanted."

And the people of the Land were sad. "Rita, Rita" they wailed in a plea to their beloved nightingale. So sad were they that their king was unable to concentrate on any other of his state duties until settling the matter. And he appealed to the curly-haired, dark-eyed singer to reconsider.

And so it was. Rita agreed to bestow the sacks of gold upon the sick children of the Land, and to allow the people of Israel to hear the song of hope the way it should be sung. A song written by the prophet Naphtali Herz Imber, and sung by the people of Israel, for generations before the curly-haired, dark-eyed young nightingale was even born.



# Big cleanup, (almost) no headache

Spring-cleaning your house needn't be a daunting, monumental task, Joy Krause tells Karol V. Menzie. And while you're at it, you can dust off your life

Sometimes when you're facing a really monumental task, the biggest obstacle is simply figuring out where to start. Joy Krause has an answer — whether it's giving your house a good spring cleaning or getting your life in order.

You start at the top. To look at a big mess and try to figure out where to start is overwhelming to most people," she said recently from her home in Florida. Krause, 51, is an expert at starting out and starting over.

She was 27 when her first marriage ended, leaving her with not a lot of education, no job skills, no money and two small children. Her new life began with an ad in her local paper in Rhode Island: "Cleaning lady for hire. Windows included."

In time, the tiny business based in Krause's truck grew to an establishment with an office, more than two dozen employees and hundreds of regular clients. Along the way, Krause climbed a mountain with her son, remarried and divorced, and took some time off to fulfill a childhood dream of becoming a lounge singer in New York.

She also learned that dust often covers heartache, that fame and fortune have their drawbacks, that life has good chapters and bad chapters, and that you can't get to the former by skipping over the latter.

Her experiences are related in her new book, *Spring Cleaning for the Soul: Love Lessons for Life* (Abaddon 1998, \$9.95).

KRAUSE'S uniquely intimate perspective allowed her to observe people in their homes, without the masks they might put on for society. Instead of becoming cynical, as might have happened, she developed great sympathy for the messes that people get into and don't know how to get out of — starting with their homes.

"The book is for anyone who needs to know how to clean up their lives," she said. "It's about the knowledge of the cleaning business and her philosophical ability to draw life lessons from her work."

"We did a huge spring and fall cleaning business," she said. "Our business tripled. People would call

up and say, 'Help, we don't know where to start.' And some people would get started, then become overwhelmed. They'd call in the middle and have us come in and finish."

Although "every season has its cleaning challenges," Krause said, spring is the time when dirt and clutter get noticed the most — "when you open the windows and let light in."

She and her team developed a system for battling grime, always moving from top to bottom and from left to right.

"First you move all the furniture away from the walls and dust the walls with a dust mop — or if you don't have a dust mop, wrap a rag around a broom."

One of their secrets was to vacuum twice: once after the walls are dusted — "the room gets full of dust, and it just takes a minute" to vacuum it up — and again at the end.

"The next thing we tackle is the woodwork," she said. Then, with the furniture out of the way, "this is the time when you can see any marks on the wall" and get rid of them.

"If it's a wood floor, this is a good time to get the floor behind the furniture and under the bed."

The next step is cleaning the wood furniture. Spray the cleaner on the cloth, and use another cloth to buff, Krause said. "Otherwise you're just spreading dirty wax around." Finally, go over hardwood floors with a damp mop, and vacuum again.

"Then you back out of the room and shut the door and lock it and don't let anyone in," she said, with a laugh.

If one room seems too tough, Krause said, start really small. "Just do a table." Evaluate every item on the surface. "Pick up each piece and ask yourself: What can I absolutely live without? If you can't, decide, Krause advises, putting the item in a box and stacking it in the attic for six months. "If you don't miss it, you probably don't need it."

Even the smallest cleaning task is worth doing, Krause says. "It really feels wonderful; it's freeing when it's all done."

"Living in a cluttered space



It's that grime-battling time of year again, but there's no need to panic. (Shlomo Tzitz)

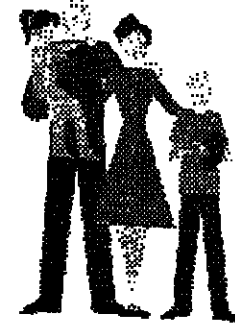
numbs a person," she said. "It fills our vision and our mind, so we can't see the things that are really important. And she's not just referring to the house."

"It's the same thing when our lives are out of sync," she said. "We need to take stock and to eliminate what isn't working for

us." It's just like starting with that one table. "Do it a little at a time. "Maybe we need to take a look at what we're reading — what are we bringing into our minds? Maybe it's friends — maybe we need to spend less time with the ones that are taking up time and not contributing very much" to our

lives. It's not an easy process. "Some of the things in our lives that are not working have been there for a long time — and that could be people, maybe a relationship." But the process of evaluation and elimination "is a habit we can develop," Krause said. (The Baltimore Sun)

## Visual problems the eye can't see



By Ruth Mason

From the time their daughter Tali was in first grade, Benny and Lisa knew something was "not right."

Says Lisa: "We couldn't put our finger on it, couldn't give it a name. Tali would lose patience when she tried to solve a problem, usually with homework. She would spew out answers without thinking. And though she had no trouble learning to read or write, her writing was atrocious. It would take her much too long to copy things from the blackboard."

"Her teacher thought Tali was doing fine, that she just needed more discipline. She told us we were 'overachieving American parents.'"

"It was only when we started having behavior problems with Tali that we decided to go to a therapist, thinking we needed help with setting boundaries. We went to a family therapist, who told us after one meeting that Tali might be hyperactive because she was wriggling around in the chair the whole time."

"I thought: How silly. Any kid telling a stranger her intimate problems would be nervous." Still, Tali's parents followed the therapist's advice to have their daughter tested.

Tali underwent a battery of psychological, neurological and physical tests at a major hospital clinic. "At the end of it all they told us, 'Your daughter is way above average in intelligence; we can't tell you exactly what her problem is, but we think she's a good candidate for Ritalin'" (a drug often prescribed for children with attention deficit disorders).

"I just looked at them. They wanted to begin instructing us on how the medicine should be taken and about kids' reactions to it, but I felt a nagging worry. They didn't tell me what her problem was."

Tali did try the medication for a short time, but no one saw any improvement.

A few weeks later, while on a trip to the US for Pessah, Lisa consulted an expert in learning disabilities who asked her if she'd had Tali's eyes checked.

"I said, 'I don't think so — but don't you think we'd know if she needed glasses?' He answered, 'I'm not talking about vision, I'm talking about visual development.'"

At the time Lisa didn't know what he was talking about, but those words marked a turnaround for Tali. The specialist recommended a doctor who tested for visual development.

"I sat there with my mouth open for three hours while he tested her," Lisa recalls. "Suddenly, I could see where my daughter had fallen down."

TALI, IT turned out, had a visu-

al perceptual dysfunction.

"This is something a regular eye doctor doesn't test for," Lisa explains. "We went through years of frustration, of knowing something wasn't right, but not understanding what. Suddenly things became clear."

"Tali had several visual dysfunctions that interfered with her ability to process visual information clearly, quickly, comfortably and accurately for extended periods of time."

"These are things most people take for granted," says Lisa. "You assume everything's normal, until you find out it isn't."

"You think you know your child. You think you know her strengths and weaknesses. But in Tali's case, she had something you couldn't see, something most doctors know nothing about."

The doctor recommended six months of vision therapy and referred Lisa and Benny to a clinic near their home in Israel.

ACCORDING to Jerusalem behavioral optometrist Rachel Eichler, who treated Tali for six months, visual perceptual dysfunction is a broad description that includes visual memory, visual discrimination, visual sequential processing, focusing and convergence and different modalities of learning through vision.

"A child can have 20/20 vision but still have a problem with the way the brain processes visual information," Eichler says. "The malfunction occurs somewhere between the eye's perceiving an object and the brain's interpreting what the eye is seeing."

In school, Eichler says, these children may have trouble with reading or math. Some compensate for it, some cannot.

Tali's therapy included reading letters while jumping on a trampoline and listening to the ticking of a metronome.

"She had trouble with multiple tasks," her mother explains. "A child in school has to listen to the teacher, see what's on the board, think about how to solve the math problem and write — all at the same time. If your eyes and brain don't function as a team, that's hard to do."

At the end of six months, Tali's parents and teachers were seeing a dramatic improvement.

"At first," says Lisa, "she could only remember three numbers in a row. By the end of the therapy she could remember 10." Tali's parents also got her a tutor, became more involved with her schoolwork, and requested more frequent updates from her teacher.

After a year Tali's tantrums and difficult behavior stopped. She was calmer, more confident, more patient. "We had known that she was frustrated, but not why," says Lisa.

Two years ago Lisa organized five experts to give in-service training on learning disabilities to the staff in her daughter's school. "Their questions made me realize how ignorant they were," Lisa says. "Teachers should be trained to identify early warning signs so children don't have to experience years of feeling like a failure."

Last week Tali, now 11, read a book on her own for the first time.

## Where to eat in Israel

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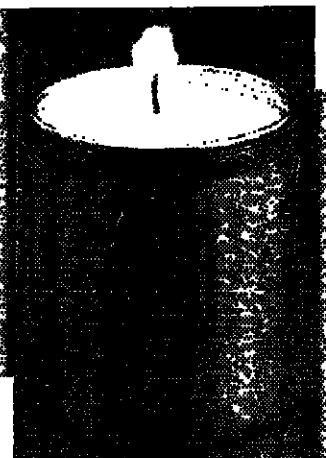
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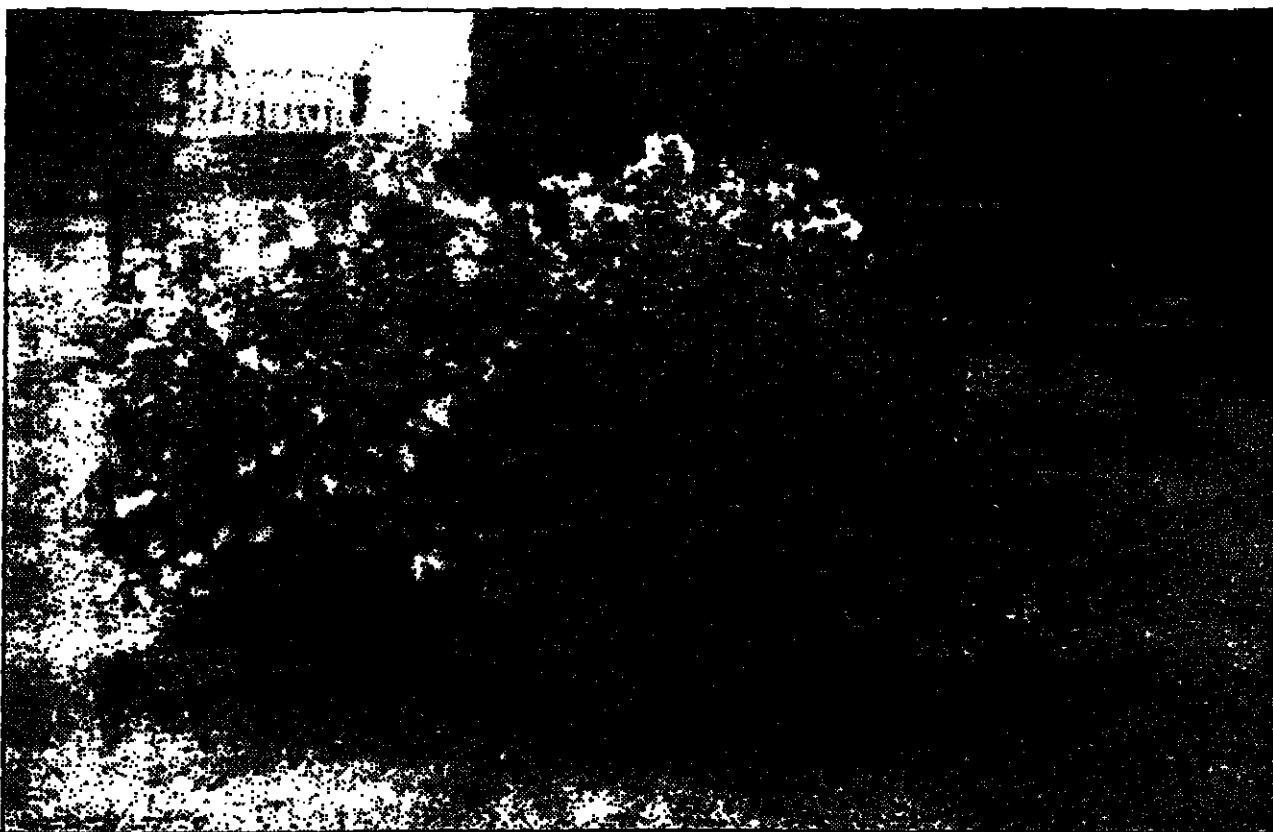


## Gardener's



By Batsheva Mink  
and David Brauner

# Plant ahead for Pessah



Before rushing off to buy new plants, try to estimate how many you'll need.

Before you rush off to buy new plants, try to estimate how many plants you will need to fill the weak areas of the garden that require a lift. Nothing is worse than to arrive home, start planting and find you could have done with a dozen more plants to finish the job. And very often, as soon as you start to plant one area, the neighboring plants start to look like poor relations.

Although growing plants from seed is, for many gardeners, one of life's greatest pleasures, this may not be practical before the holidays hit. However, with the warmer weather coming on, one class of plants – the summer annuals – are ideal to sow at this time. Because they are annuals, most are quick growing in that they have to start and finish their life cycle in the course of the same year.

For full sun, the best buy in annuals are bright-colored zinnias (*Zinnia elegans*; Heb. *zinya adina*), which come in all hues except blue. For containers it is better to buy the shorter varieties. Zinnias are very easy to grow from seed. Sow directly into the container but not too densely. When they start to germinate, thin out the shoots. In other words, pull out sprouts that are growing too close together, otherwise they will choke each other and not give much of a show. Because zinnias don't like to be transplanted, they must be sown directly into their permanent situation. When you buy them in pots, they are not really being transplanted, since you are planting the whole root ball when you remove them from their pots. In other words, you are not really disturbing their roots.

Assuming you are not planting any-

thing from seed, because time is short, there are lots of young plants to choose from in garden centers. A word of warning: Choose bedding plants with care. If a plant is already looking sad in the nursery, you cannot expect it to flourish and show a great display in your garden. When you buy, the leaves should be firm and green with no spots or holes. The plant should look dense and bushy. Avoid plants that are thin and lanky looking, perhaps through lack of light. If the plant is in flower, make sure there are plenty of buds as well. Also avoid any plants in pots where the soil is completely dried out. In other words, if the soil is light colored and powdery, don't buy that plant. It is very hard to wet the compost in these pots once it has dried out, and consequently the plant may die of dehydration almost before you get it home.

If you are feeling in a wake-up, spring-time mood and are prepared to go beyond a "lick and promise," here are a few thoughts to bear in mind for the summer. In addition to zinnias, you might want to plant other annuals like marigolds (Heb. *risparnei hehauil*), petunias (Heb. *penunia*), alyssum (Heb. *alissum*) or lobelia (Heb. *lobelia*). Also consider putting in longer-lasting flowering plants like tuberous begonias (Heb. *begonia*), which come in most colors except blue and, the most popular of them all, pelargoniums (geraniums). The trailing varieties, as opposed to the uprights, take our high summer temperatures better.

A colorful mixture of red, white and blue from the petunias interplanted with yellow marigolds is very eye-catching.

To finish off the picture, you can try either trailing or bushy lobelias in white or blue or both. White or pink alyssum make lovely edging plants for beds or along walkways.

Now that we have mentioned color, a nice mixture of bright flowering annuals or a variation on a single shade can look very attractive. If you decide to mix and match colors, they should, of course, not clash. We have heard many do's and don'ts: don't put orange next to pink, or blue next to mauve, or scarlet next to crimson. All we can say is there are many colors that are accepted as harmonizing with each other like yellow and orange, or complement one another like blue and orange, and red and white. As long as a color combination appeals to you, why worry what the critics might say?

While we are on the subject of color, many gardeners automatically think of the flower as the sole source of display. But foliage plays a vital role in most successful bedding designs. A show of colorful and attractive leaves can last all season long, compared with the more limited life of the floral display.

It is also worth considering a few "dot" plants – that is, single plants that provide a point of interest, which are not flowering but leaf plants. The attractive, deeply veined leaves of the Joseph's coat (*Amaranthus tri-color*; Heb. *yarbus*) with their bright red and splashes of yellow make excellent dot plants. Others to consider are the red-leafed begonia, the huge-leafed, silvery cineraria, and the red, yellow and white foliage of the coleus.

If you are an apartment dweller and your garden consists of window boxes, then colorful red salvias (Heb. *marva*) and busy lizzies (Heb. *basmal hagina*) make a deliciously colorful show. Pansies (Heb. *annon v'amar*) and fuchsias (Heb. *fukisia*), trailing ivy and upright pelargoniums (Heb. *geranium* or

Colorful petunias are good mixers.

pelargonium), together with alyssum plants, can transform your window boxes instantly. You can keep the boxes in a shady position as long as they receive at least four hours of sunlight a day.

If you do decide to plant, remember the first few weeks after planting are critical. During this time, plants must not be allowed to go short of water. After two or three weeks they should be growing nicely and be well settled in.

So when Pessah arrives, you can sit in your garden or out on your balcony and enjoy the fruits of your labor.

Your gardening questions and comments are welcome. Contact Batsheva Mink, P.O.B. 3943, Jerusalem 91039, or David Brauner, e-mail: [dmorri@mail.biu.ac.il](mailto:dmorri@mail.biu.ac.il) (write "for David" in the subject line).

## TIP OF THE WEEK

In addition to watering your newly bought acquisitions after you plant them, it's a good idea also to water them in the pot before you plant them. That way you can be sure the roots get the moisture they need for a good start in life in your garden or window box.

In the warmer weather plants will grow faster and need more attention – like regular applications of fertilizer.

## More lapdog than watchdog

### Heads 'N' Tails



By D'vora Ben Shaul

There's a Doberman in our neighborhood so gentle and friendly that we jokingly refer to it as 'poodleman.'

"The dog is a terrible disappointment to its owners, who paid top price for a dog with a magnificent pedigree and have invested a lot of time, money and effort in having it trained because they want a watchdog for their villa. Far from barking at strangers, the only danger this dog poses to anyone setting foot on the property is that of possibly killing the intruder with exuberant affection. How can this happen?"

The fact that an animal has an impressive pedigree does not necessarily mean it will be a suitable representative of its breed, only that it should be. Unfortunately, when it comes to personality traits scientists are just now recognizing what dog breeders have always known – that you can selectively breed for personality just as you selectively breed for color, size, etc.

What has happened to many fine breeds that were originally good watchdogs as well as companions is that more attention has been paid to producing a dog that looks like the ideal representative of its breed, ignoring the characteristics that make it able to do what the breed is supposed to.

THE GERMAN breeder Louis Doberman knew all about breeding for characteristics that would make a superior guard dog and created the breed named after him. But most people found these dogs too quick on the attack, and so over the years other breeders have intentionally bred out much of what Doberman put in by choosing the breed's less aggressive representatives. The result is an animal that is more like the Doberman described above.

If you want a watchdog or guard dog, of course you should choose a dog from one of the working breeds. But that isn't enough.

If you are buying from a good kennel you should certainly be able to see the dam and



MEIR RONNEN © 98

find out how she responds to strangers on the premises. The breeder will give you the name and address of the owner of the sire if the dog is not from his own kennel. Go see him, too, and assess whether he is a good watchdog.

As I said, animal breeders have always known you could breed for personality traits, but over the years the whole "nature versus

nurture" argument persuaded a lot of people that all you had to do was give a dog the right training, and presto – it would be a guard dog.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Training cannot teach a dog to guard, only to be obedient to its master. Although dogs that have been trained to attack are usually better guards than untrained dogs, they are far less dangerous, since they do not usually

attack without reason. This is, however, contingent on the dog having been trained by a reliable trainer.

To the unhappy owners of the 'poodleman' the best advice I can offer is: Keep the dog as a pet and get another dog for security purposes. There's no more chance of teaching this one to guard than there is of teaching a rooster to lay eggs.

### The Passover Gourmet – by Nira Rouso

Passover is coming – The goose is getting fat! Sorry, wrong festival. Borscht with apples, a nine-egg dumpling stew, cream of artichoke soup, apricot haroset and 150 other easy-to-make recipes, guaranteed to turn the holiday into a memorable culinary experience. A full color guide to Passover gourmet cooking from snacks and brunches to elegant holiday meals.

JP Price NIS 82

### The Animated Haggadah

Back By Popular Demand! The widely acclaimed ANIMATED HAGGADAH video – "a funny and sophisticated film for young and old alike." A dream journey brought to life in colorful clay animation. It's all here! The Children of Israel's liberation from slavery, Pharaoh's court, the burning bush, the ten plagues etc. The kids love it and view it again and again. A great Passover gift!

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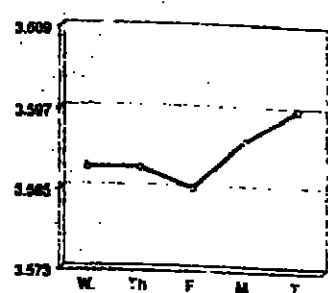
מכירת ספרים



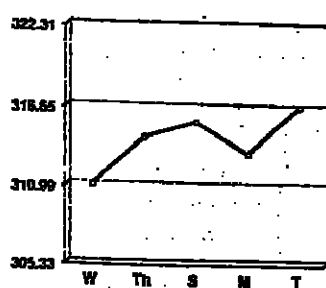
## MARKETS

in brief

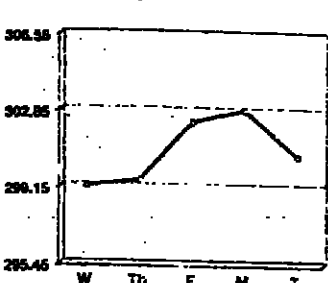
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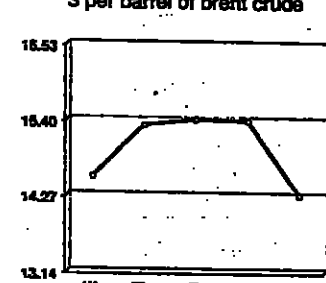
MAOF INDEX



GOLD  
\$ per ounce



OIL  
\$ per barrel of Brent crude



### Gas prices rise 1.86%

Fuel prices were amended at midnight last night, with 96 octane gasoline rising 1.86 percent to NIS 3.28. Unleaded gasoline (95 octane) now also costs NIS 3.28. Price changes at the refineries included a 10.94% rise in household heating, a 11.03% increase in fuel for public transport, civilian aircraft gasoline becoming 9.57% more expensive,

Frenkel, in presenting central bank annual report

## '99 budget must be restructured

By DAVID HARRIS

The 1999 state budget must be substantially different than 1998's, Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel said yesterday, when presenting the central bank's annual report.

In this year's public expenditure package of NIS 207 billion, Frenkel claimed "there was insufficient investment in infrastructure, especially for transport."

Furthermore, he added, there are many elements of the budget which can be removed, particularly in what he termed "non-productive areas." Frenkel, however, declined to specify.

On three separate occasions during his presentation, Frenkel stressed the need for a significant cut in the overall tax burden. This would be implemented with considerable ease if it were preceded by a reduction of the percentage of public expenditure in the total

gross domestic product. Frenkel added that reducing taxation must not come at the expense of increasing national deficits.

He said that to the best of his knowledge there is no reason why the government's full currency-liberalization package cannot be implemented by Independence Day. "The economy is ripe for this," he said. "I have received no indication of direct or indirect plans not to complete the next stage of liberalization. I have no reason to think it will be any time other than Independence Day."

He criticized the businesspeople who have expressed concern over the speed of the reforms. He described Israel as the only place in the world where the business community would object to the removal of supervision over foreign exchange. Furthermore, it would be wrong to postpone the implementation of the reforms, he added.

The central bank's latest figures suggest

1998 economic growth will only reach 2 percent, compared to the 3% prediction made at the weekend by Prime Minister's Office Director-General Moshe Leon. The new data suggests the Asian crisis will lead to a 0.75%-0.8% decline in GDP growth. The bank's figures suggest little or no change on 1997.

Turning to the rapidly declining inflation, Frenkel said that just because there is "a lack of symmetry" between inflation in practice (heading for 5%-6% this year) and the government's target (7%-10%) that doesn't mean the bank should create inflation to meet the cabinet-approved goal.

"We are entering new territory [in inflation figures] and we must make sure we stay there and not just pay a visit like tourists," he said.

Following the expansion of the exchange-rate mechanism in mid-June, the central bank has only intervened in trading "on

some three days," he reported. Widening the shekel-basket of currencies trading band to some 30% "gives enough flexibility," said Frenkel, in claiming the reform a success.

Once again, he said there is an urgent need to tackle the thorny question of unemployment, which hit 8.2% in January, according to newly released figures from the Central Bureau of Statistics. In the short-term infrastructure investment will help, but long-term there must be increased provision of professional and technical training.

While avoiding entering the political fray, Frenkel did say that uncertainty in the diplomatic or security fields does not encourage investment. However, he added that there was a positive trend in 1997 in long-term foreign investment.

Declining to predict the shape of the economy 12 months hence, Frenkel quipped "same place, same time," suggesting he will only comment on 1998 once it has passed.

## Leumi's 1997 net surges 109%

Bank Leumi said yesterday that net profit soared 109.1 percent last year to NIS 1.26 billion, turning it into the most profitable Israeli company ever.

The figure was even higher than the NIS 1.05b. profit presented a day earlier by the country's largest financial institution, Bank Hapoalim.

It should be noted, however, that the sum includes profits from the sale of the bank's excess non-banking holdings for a net figure of NIS 475.4m., including the

sale of shares in Leumi Insurance Holdings and Africa Israel Investments.

The results presented by Israel's second largest bank reflect a 16.1% return on capital, compared with 8.1% in 1996.

Bank Leumi, which is the last among the country's five largest banks to report earnings, said net profit from ordinary operations in 1997 increased 42.3% to NIS 788m., reflecting a 10.1% return on capital compared with 7.5% a year earlier.

### COMPANY RESULTS

By DAN GOSTENFELD  
and ARNOLD SULLIVAN

Net profit in the fourth quarter rose 37.7% to NIS 242.8m. from NIS 176.4m. in the same period in 1996.

The bank said the results reflect a continuing increase in the group's profits, which stem from the implementation of a new

business strategy.

### IAI back in black

After five successive years of losses, Israel Aircraft Industries yesterday announced it made a net profit of \$30 million in 1997.

After taxes and special expenses, profits were \$24.3m., the company said. In 1996, the company recorded a loss of \$41.6m.

According to a company announcement, sales increased 15% to \$1.691 billion, of which \$1.3b. were in exports,

IAI exports accounted for 9% of Israel's total exports, excluding diamonds, the company said.

IAI is the country's largest defense company and generated \$2.6b. worth of new orders in 1997. The backlog of orders was worth \$3.2b., compared to \$2.6b. at the end of 1996.

IAI president Moshe Keret attributed the turnaround to downsizing and improving efficiency, as well as expanding production lines and employee concessions.

## Bank Leumi le-Israel B.M. and subsidiaries

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 December 1997  
adjusted for the effect of inflation on the basis of the index of December 1997  
(NIS thousands)

ASSETS	1997	1996
Cash and deposits with banks	29,307,363	18,920,659
Securities	26,054,403	29,346,896
Credit to the public	88,883,465	79,037,302 (+)
Credit to governments	2,755,616	4,128,108
Investments in companies	582,366	999,266
included on the equity basis	1,805,335	1,948,725
Buildings and equipment	2,161,568	1,787,325
Other assets	145,080,116	136,168,279
Total assets		

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY CAPITAL	1997	1996
Deposits of the public	121,896,311	114,120,628 (+)
Deposits from banks	3,176,665	3,103,980
Deposits from governments	2,795,763	3,095,743 (+)
Debentures and bonds	4,202,389	4,519,796
Other liabilities	3,976,255	3,115,267
Total liabilities	136,147,384	127,955,414
Minority interests	453,612	393,247
Shareholders' equity	8,479,120	7,819,618
Total liabilities and equity capital	145,080,116	136,168,279

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Changes in Shareholders' Equity  
for the year ended 31 December 1997  
adjusted for the effect of inflation on the basis of the index of December 1997  
(NIS thousands)

	Capital and capital reserves	Retained earnings (A)	Total shareholders' equity
Balance as at 1 January 1995	6,010,547	1,015,512	7,026,059
Net profit for the year	—	485,171	485,171
Interim dividend that was paid, proposed as final	—	(86,130)	(86,130)
Adjustment of the dividend proposed in the preceding year	—	2,688	2,688
Balance as at 31 December 1995	6,010,547	1,417,241	7,427,788
Net profit for the year	—	603,658	603,658
Dividend proposed	—	(211,328)	(211,328)
Balance as at 31 December 1996	6,010,547	1,809,571	7,820,118
Net profit for the year	—	1,262,481	1,262,481
Interim dividend that was paid	—	(471,976)	(471,976)
Dividend proposed	—	(282,849)	(282,849)
Adjustment of the dividend proposed in the preceding year	—	7,842	7,842
Adjustments and changes as a result of: Adjustment in respect of presentation of securities available for sale at fair value	—	264,979	264,979
Relating tax effect	—	(120,975)	(120,975)
Balance as at 31 December 1997	6,010,547	2,468,573 (B)	8,479,120

(A) The retained earnings for 31 December 1997, 1996 and 1995 include adjustments from translation of the financial statements of foreign subsidiaries, which were classified as autonomous, amounting to NIS (328,252) thousands.  
(B) Including retained earnings of NIS 1,845,333 thousands (31 December 1996 - NIS 1,375,110 thousands) which may be distributed as a dividend.

Eitan Rafti  
Chairman of the Board  
of Directors

Itzhak Hoffi  
Director

Moshe Schnitzer  
Director

Galia Maor  
President and  
Chief Executive Officer

The complete financial statements are available in inspection at all branches of the Bank and a copy will be provided upon request. The representative exchange rate against the dollar on 31 December 1997, according to which the financial statements have been prepared, was NIS 3.536.

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Profit and Loss  
for the year ended 31 December 1997  
adjusted for the effect of inflation on the basis of the index of December 1997  
(NIS thousands)

	1997	1996	1995
Net interest income before provision for doubtful debts	3,921,878	3,523,697 (+)	3,400,134 (+)
Provision for doubtful debts	(726,547)	(653,169)	(1,026,034)
Net interest income after provision for doubtful debts	3,195,331	2,870,528	2,374,100
Operating and other income	2,487,288	2,281,951 (+)	2,389,878 (+)
Operating and other expenses	(4,141,319)	(4,077,229)	(3,833,025)
Operating profit before taxes	1,541,280	1,075,250	830,743
Provision for taxes on operating profit	(750,107)	(579,930)	(377,655)
Operating profit after taxes	791,173	495,320	453,088
Equity in after-tax operating profit of companies included on the equity basis	39,212	73,212	91,458
Minority interest	(42,385)	5,594	(69,713)
Net operating profit	787,990	569,035	483,833
Net after-tax profit (loss) from extraordinary items	474,481	49,823	(10,668)
Net profit	1,262,471	603,658	483,171

Profit per NIS 1 par value of share capital	(NIS)
Net operating profit	0.557
Net after-tax profit (loss) from extraordinary items	0.336
Total	0.893

Par value of nominal share capital used in the above computation	(NIS thousands)
	1,414,233

(+) Reclassified.

30 March 1998

bank leumi בנק לאומי

## Bezeq Globe to close by June 30

By JUDY SIEGEL

Bezeq subsidiary Bezeq Globe, which has lost money carrying out telecommunications infrastructure work abroad, especially in India and Hungary, will shut down by later than June 30.

Bezeq's board of directors made this decision a few days ago and informed the Securities Authority and the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange of the move yesterday.

Bezeq will not make any investments or money transfers to the troubled subsidiary, except financing arrangements for halting the company's operations in an orderly manner, the board said.

But Bezeq said it would continue to carry out development efforts abroad and would look for projects either linking Israel and a foreign country or being carried out abroad.

## Technion code-breaker causes US security rethink

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK - After a Technion cryptographer cracked its code, the US government is delaying a new encryption standard that was intended to enhance computer security and protect electronic financial transactions, *The New York Times* reported in yesterday's editions.

Eli Biham of the Technion and Lars Knudsen at the University of Bergen in Norway determined that a powerful version of the "United States Data Encryption Standard" - or "Triple D.E.S." - is flawed.

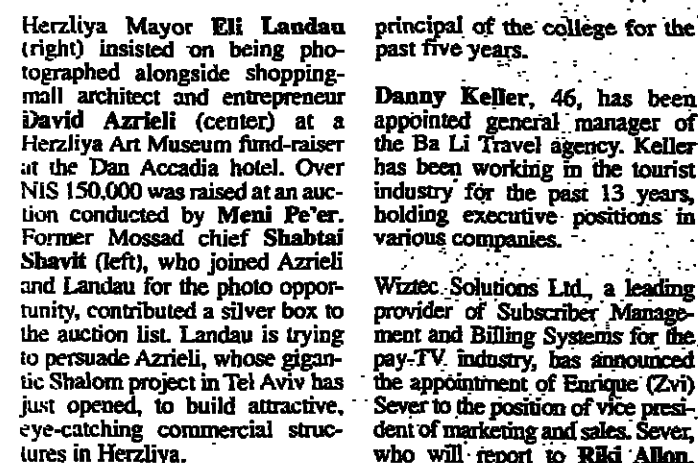
Under certain circumstances, the new data-scrambling standard appears to be no better than the encryption algorithm that has been used by financial institutions as a security mechanism for several decades, the newspaper reported. Their findings, to be presented at a technical conference next month, are discussed in a paper on the Technion's Web site.

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## BY GREEN /AY CASIMAN



Prof. Ze'ev Tzahor has been appointed the first president of the Academic College of the Negev. A professor of history who specializes in modern Israeli history, Tzahor has been

**Avraham Burg**, chairman of the Jewish Agency for Israel, was honored by the Masorati (Conservative) Movement in Israel at their national gathering in celebration of Israel's 50th anniversary. Rabbi Joe Wernick, chairman of the Masorati Movement, presented Burg with an award for his outstanding contribution to the growth of the Masorati Movement in Israel and for his commitment to religious pluralism. Over \$20 million of the Jewish Agency's budget is devoted to programs supporting religious pluralism in Israel.

## How much longer will Wall Street's unprecedented bull run last?

### m Petruno offers what-to-do-now advice based on an investor's age

"We know we're forecasting the unprecedented to occur" in terms of four straight years



of equities in the near future should be happy at seeing stocks rise," Buffett wrote in his recent letter to shareholders. "Prospective purchasers should much prefer sinking prices," he said. Why? So you can buy more for the long run.

## PERSONAL FINANCE

future should be  
e." Buffett wrote  
o shareholders.  
ould much prefer  
Why? So you can

third, your own retirement. Probably are becoming less more conceivable. Will be in — and patient with — these lofty market heights? Why? If your retirement is a

That may well mean paring your stock investments now and moving some of those profits — whatever makes you sleep better — into safer investments, such as Treasury bonds, which will pay you income and are subject to much less price volatility than stocks over time. (Los Angeles Times)

**NOTICE:**  
Neil Cohen's column will be  
back later this spring.

	SHARES			
Asst. Police	118,991	116,851	+1.81	+61.4
Asst. Police Shares	287,50	306,86	+2.00	+2.5
Asst. Police Shares	162,49	162,49	0.00	0.0
Asst. Police Real Estate	224,02	219,51	-1.79	-0.83
Asst. Police Shares	156,83	153,18	-2.37	-1.5
Asst. Police Shares	255,69	224,82	-4.86	-1.9
Asst. Police Shares	292,45	292,45	0.00	0.0
Asst. Police Shares	108,88	108,14	-0.50	-0.5
Asst. Police	250,07	229,42	-5.28	-2.1
Asst. Police Shares	11,21	11,91	+0.23	+1.9
Asst. Police Shares	125,15	125,15	0.00	0.0
Asst. Police Shares	125,15	121,01	-4.17	-3.1
Asst. Police Shares	26,131	26,658	+5.94	+2.0
Asst. Police Shares	109,78	109,78	0.00	0.0
Asst. Police Shares	109,78	108,41	-1.58	-1.4
Asst. Police Shares	116,72	113,57	-3.66	-3.1
Asst. Police Shares	548,78	548,78	0.00	0.0
Asst. Police Shares	121,82	120,88	-0.79	-0.7
Asst. Police Shares	13,55	13,52	-0.73	-0.7
Asst. Police Shares	73,00	74,62	+2.66	+2.7
Asst. Police Shares	350,43	347,69	-1.48	-1.3
Asst. Police	183,01	161,94	-4.80	-3.9
Asst. Police Shares	130,41	127,72	-2.64	-1.8
Asst. Police Shares	116,49	113,50	-2.91	-2.5
Asst. Police Shares	85,31	88,42	+3.96	+4.4

STATE BONDS				
	1544	1545	1546	1547
Pe 2001	91	118	92	97
Pe 2004	91	118	92	97
Pe 2004 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2007	91	118	92	97
Pe 2010	91	118	92	97
Pe 2010 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2013	91	118	92	97
Pe 2013 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2016	91	118	92	97
Pe 2016 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2019	91	118	92	97
Pe 2019 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2022	91	118	92	97
Pe 2022 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2025	91	118	92	97
Pe 2025 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2028	91	118	92	97
Pe 2028 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2031	91	118	92	97
Pe 2031 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2034	91	118	92	97
Pe 2034 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2037	91	118	92	97
Pe 2037 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2040	91	118	92	97
Pe 2040 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2043	91	118	92	97
Pe 2043 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2046	91	118	92	97
Pe 2046 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2049	91	118	92	97
Pe 2049 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2052	91	118	92	97
Pe 2052 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2055	91	118	92	97
Pe 2055 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2058	91	118	92	97
Pe 2058 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
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Pe 2061 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
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Pe 2070 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2073	91	118	92	97
Pe 2073 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
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Pe 2085 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
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Pe 2088 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
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Pe 2091 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
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Pe 2094 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
Pe 2097	91	118	92	97
Pe 2097 FA 100	103.05	101.90	97.42	92.84
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Index	203.40	202.67	+0.73	+1.89	36.65
Dornier Stream Bonds	167.16	164.60	+0.16	+0.97	62.7
Enbridge Energy	110.48	110.48	+0.00	+0.00	10.0
Enco Petroleum	171.04	169.22	+0.14	+0.32	13.6
Enbridge Pipelines	110.48	110.48	+0.13	+1.84	44.1
Enbridge Canada	110.48	110.48	+0.13	+1.84	44.1
Enbridge US	110.48	110.48	+0.13	+1.84	44.1
Enbridge Zink	230.26	226.82	+1.79	+2.96	17.9
Enbridge Energy Services	110.48	110.48	+0.13	+1.84	44.1
Enbridge Energy Market	148.18	145.11	+2.09	+4.10	17.04
Evergreen Shipco	154.27	153.38	+0.84	+0.40	33.6
Enbridge Energy Services	110.48	110.48	+0.13	+1.84	44.1
Enbridge Energy Services	148.18	145.11	+2.09	+4.10	17.04
Ely Corporate Bonds	146.85	146.28	+0.12	+2.69	8.7
Ely Stock	158.73	158.73	+1.52	+3.12	11.2
Enbridge	110.48	110.48	+0.13	+1.84	44.1
Hefz Pacific	598.42	598.42	+1.11	+2.92	812.4
Index	148.18	145.11	+2.09	+4.10	17.04
Island Gas	437.57	423.86	+0.20	+1.25	38.9
Island Air	1642.29	1627.70	+0.06	+0.02	42.8
Island	148.18	145.11	+2.09	+4.10	17.04
Island Corp/bonds	3089.40	3085.37	+0.22	+1.50	1.9
Island Energy	771.50	769.50	+0.60	+0.07	84.1
Island Energy	148.18	145.11	+2.09	+4.10	17.04
Island Northwest	106.73	106.73	+1.55	+2.63	36.8
Island Oil	406.87	402.56	+0.60	+0.05	108.9
Island Oil	181.50	179.65	+1.07	+1.36	26.2
Island Rimmed	554.71	554.71	+1.27	+1.14	24.2
Island	231.62	231.62	+0.59	+0.38	13.6
Island Stock	228.04	226.32	+0.25	+0.55	42.4
Island Shipco	169.38	164.49	+0.44	+1.18	86.5
Island	148.18	145.11	+2.09	+4.10	17.04
Island America	200.61	200.00	+0.00	+0.00	0.0

Flores Continental	327.78	321.82	+ 0.14	+3.58	14.2
Tasler Partner					14.0
<b>MIXED</b>					
Ellen Polak	336.43	333.42	+ 0.86	-0.46	92.8
Emilia Rodell	286.82	283.79	+ 0.44	+0.05	70.9
Gordon Polson	736.26	723.71	+ 0.45	+0.01	161.1
Harriet Bank	2824.74	2905.52	+ 2.85	+2.86	401.1
Harriet Smith	5584.15	5385.04	+ 2.62	+3.81	68.6
Harriet Mubard	2925.47	2872.62	+ 0.90	-0.20	130.2
Lahav Tzafir	761.18	747.85	+ 2.80	+3.48	100.0
Meir Dini	145.71	141.72	+ 1.54	+1.23	19.9
Pinchas Shalev Meshulam	81.44	81.44	+ 0.73	-0.10	13.7
Pinchas Shalev Meshulam	8256.15	8114.46	+ 1.59	+4.02	77.1
Pis Goren	152.15	152.15	+ 0.00	+0.00	17.1
Shimon Meshulam	757.39	744.64	+ 3.05	-4.19	22.2
<b>NET ASSETS OF THE FUND - Managers of Mutual Funds and Security Investments</b>					
<b>DAT-28-Mar-96</b>					

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The mutual fund prices listed reflect the close of business on MONDAY. They should be used as a guide only and not as the basis for dealing. The Issuer/SEI is not responsible for the

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Brit Airways Stp	104.313	+2.312
Brit Alms ADR	104.063	+0.437
Brit Steel ADR	24.25	-0.25
Bkt Telecom	109.375	+0.0625
Brown Group	14.375	+0.0625
Brown & Sharpe	11.875	+0.125
Browning Ferris	32.825	+0
Brunswick	34.875	+0.625

[illegible]

Cypress Semiconductor	10.125	+0.125
Cypress Micro	16.825	-0.125
Cytek Indust.	55.0825	+2.625
DOE	37.25	+0.5
Dana Corp.	58.0825	+1.25
Data General	17.5875	+0.375

[illegible]

Foster Wheeler	30.5625	+0.25
Gelco Toys	9.9375	+1.1875
Gateway 2000	2.25	+4.1875
GAIX Corp	78	+0.0625
GTE Corp	59.875	+6.5
Gannett	71.875	+1.125

Global Weather	-36.625	+0.25
Goldstar	9.9375	+1.1875
Gateway 2000	2.25	+0.1875
GAFC Corp	7.8	+0.0625
GTE Corp	59.875	+0.5
General	71.875	+1.125
Gap Inc Del	45	+0.8625
GenCorp	30.875	+0.4375
Gen Motors	20.5625	+0.125
Gen Dynamics	85.125	-0.25
Gen Electric	86	+0.5875
Gen Mills	57	-1.125
Gen Motors	67.75	-0.5
Gen Motors H	45.375	-1.3125
Gen Public Ut	44.25	+0.875
Gen Tech	22.5	+0.375
Gen Signal	48.875	-0.25
Gen TeleComm	5.9375	0
Gen Tech	39.25	+0.75
Georgia Pac	64.75	-1.25
Genmar Fund	16.875	+0.125
Gibbs	110.88	+0.125
Gillette	54.75	+1.75
Golden ADR	57.125	0
Golden W Ind	85.125	+1.5

Donkeydog 12th	102.813	+1.2875
Grace (WSA)	83.6875	-0.0825
Granger (WV)	102.813	+1.1875
Grt All Pac Tea	30.25	-0.5
Grt Central Mine	4.0825	-0.0825
Gulf Canada Rec	6.75	-0.0625
Hellbourn	50.125	-0.625

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PARIS				NEW YORK METAL FUTURES			
Acid	1950	+44		Gold (May)	300.6		Change -0.9
Al Liquid	1500	-17		Silver (May)	8.667		-0.172
Alcoated Alabam	1163	+47		Platinum (Apr)	408.5		+1.1
Aluminum Dimer	358	-23		Palladium (Apr)	262.8		+0.2
Michelin B	369.9	+0.8		High-grade copper (May)	270.75		+0.025
Mogliner	154	-2.8					
Shelton	157	-0.7					
Pennard Picard	421	-5					
Alcoated	1028	+0.3					
Alcoated Goblen	1069	+0.5					
Alcoated	1069	+0.5					
FRANKFURT				LONDON METAL FIXES			
Bayer	84.6	+2.01		Gold AM fix	269.9		Change -0.2
Daimler-Benz	170	+1.5		Gold PM fix	269		-0.85
Pharmaz	35.85	+1.55		Silver fix	824.5		-0.5
Mannesmann	1354	+24		Month in parentheses signifies contract exp. date			
Metallgesellschaft	39.75	+0.55		Spot market fixings are from approximately			
Wolfsberg	149	+0.5		+30 level time. All others are clearing prices.			
				SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK			
				(DATE: 31-MAR-88)			

Foreign financial data courtesy of  
**Comstock Trading Inc.**  
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Africa, Brazil  
and Asian Pacific*

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# 'It's not about starting, but how you finish'

## Kentucky coach Tubby Smith steps out of Rick Pitino's shadow to win in 1st year at Wildcats' helm

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — It was his bad luck to inherit a team that couldn't pay attention until it was 10 points down.

But it was Tubby Smith's better luck to be born into a family of 17 kids, and to be able to teach others a lesson he learned early in life: that it wasn't how you started that mattered, but how you finished.

"We knew we would come back," Smith said after Kentucky's 78-69 win over Utah made him only the seventh coach to win a national title in his first year on the job.

"We are the comeback kids. We've been under that kind of duress all season long."

Not exactly. Smith himself has been under considerable duress since that warm spring day when he followed Rick Pitino into one of the highest profile jobs in college basketball. But you wouldn't have known it watching him bring this team along.

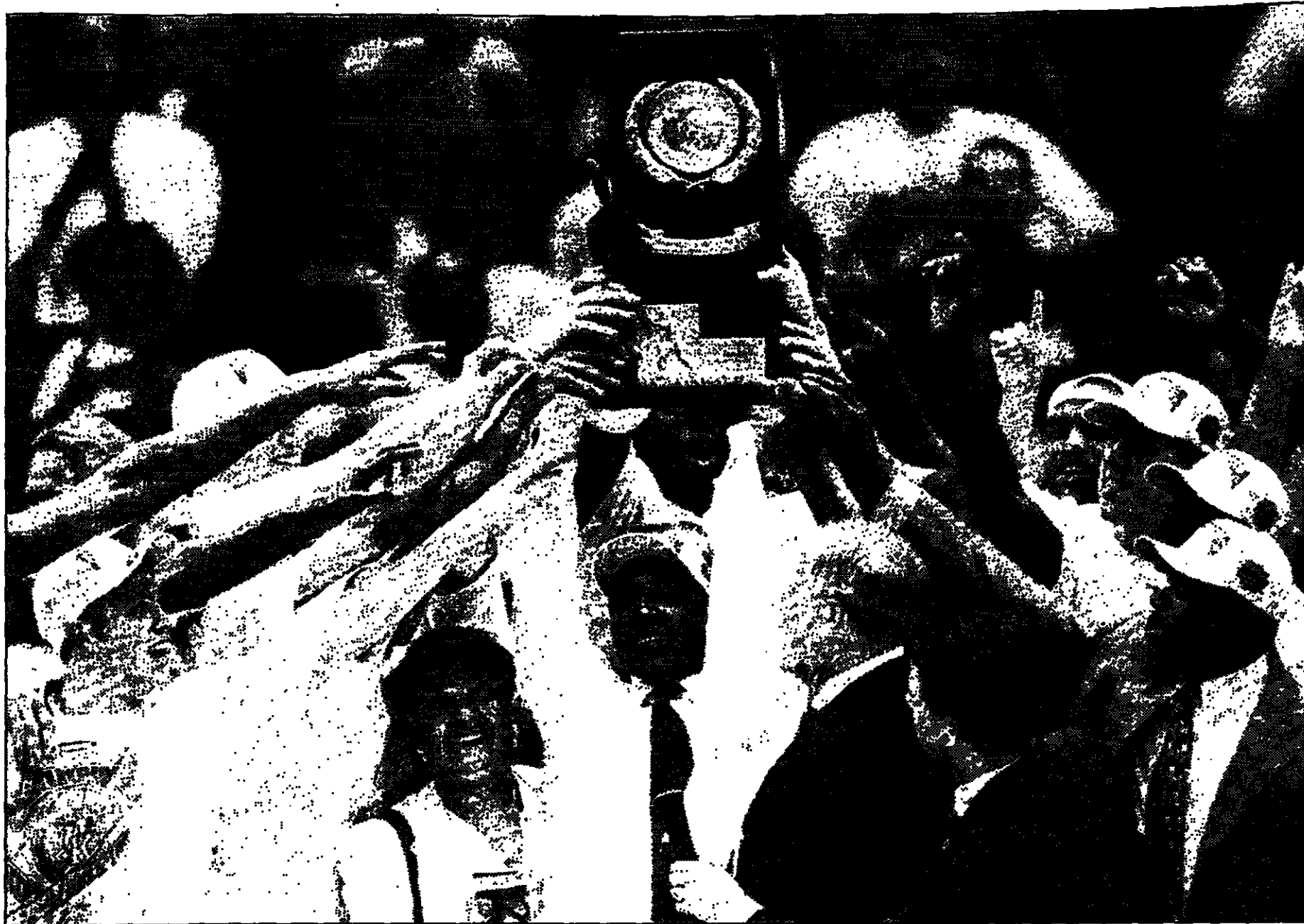
Pressure was something his kids only knew at arm's length — the length of Smith's arm, to be exact — until they got deep into the NCAA tournament. Then they proceeded to fall behind by 10 points at halftime against Duke in the regional final ... against Stanford in the semifinal ... and against Utah in the national championship Monday night.

And it wasn't until those moments that they appreciated how well Smith had insulated them from those same expectations, how his calm demeanor hid his own sense of urgency like so much gift wrapping.

And that made them want to pay him back — and in the bargain, pay back Duke, Stanford, Utah and everything else that stood between Smith and the national championship trophy.

When NCAA selection committee chairman C.M. Newton passed that singular piece of hardware to Smith, the first words out of his mouth were, "It is with great personal pride that I present ..."

He wasn't kidding. Newton's day job is athletic director of University of Kentucky, and he took as big a gamble in hiring Smith as Smith



ALL THE MARBLES — Kentucky coach Tubby Smith (c) holds the NCAA championship trophy after Wildcats' 78-69 win over Utah.

(Reuters)

did in accepting. It was a bold enough move to pluck a coach from Georgia with only a half-dozen seasons of experience to run

one of the most successful programs ever. It was an even bolder move to hire a black man to work the same sideline that Adolph

Rupp once prowled, especially since The Baron resisted integrating his program as long as he could.

"Folks were telling him not to take the job because of the high expectations," guard Wayne Turner said. "But he pulled us

through." Comebacks aren't an exact science, no matter how convincing Smith sounded when he said, "We

practice how to come back. That's the big key. We teach them how to come back." You can teach a team plenty of things in practice about coming back: How to make a defensive stand. How to clamp on a press. How to run a set play to get your best shooter in the clear and the ball in his hands.

But nothing in practice will ever simulate the sense of urgency a team feels when the national championship is slipping away. And for all the technique any good coach can impart to his squad, only the very best can teach the desire needed to get those crucial rebounds, the toughness to make the last-gasp stops, the fearlessness required to take the shot when everything is on the line.

Those are the coaching lessons in which Smith has few peers. The lessons that enable kids to behave like men when it matters most.

On the court and off, "He taught us first to be men," said Jeff Sheppard, the tournament's most outstanding player, "and how to play basketball second."

Even so, Smith's halftime lecture must have been something. The Wildcats had taken more shots and made less, they had been outrebounded 24-6 and despite committing half as many turnovers (6 to Utah's 12), they still trailed 41-31.

"It was a sad first half," said freshman guard Saul Smith, who happens to be Tubby's son. "Coach let us know about it." Still, the kids he started out nurturing, then taught, then forged into a focused, dependable squad should consider themselves lucky.

The day before the final, Smith told stories about his father and his own childhood, about how toiling in the field alongside his brothers and sisters taught him some of the lessons about patience and persistence that he tries to pass on through basketball.

"He always told me, 'just finish,'" Smith recalled. "He'd say everybody starts things. Most people don't finish anything."

## Why they stay away from Shea

### Mets' manager Valentine criticizes ballpark, has opening day flutters

NEW YORK (AP) — If fans don't come to see the New York Mets at Shea Stadium, manager Bobby Valentine thinks he knows why.

Although the Mets were the NL's biggest surprise last season, winning 88 games and staying in the playoff hunt until September, their fans were slow to embrace a team with few stars and an organization with tight purse strings.

Beyond those problems, though, Valentine insists, is a ballpark that's seriously behind the times.

"The only thing I'm sensing is this isn't a good building to come to," Valentine said as almost on cue his office rumbled like a subway platform. "I just hear fans talking. I don't know what they are thinking, but I hear them talking. This isn't a good place to come to compared to some of the other buildings around here."

Maybe so. Even with a fresh coat of paint for opening day, Shea doesn't gleam like many of today's newer, fan-friendly ballparks.

But team officials hoped that record

warm temperatures and the promise of a new season would attract more than 45,000 yesterday when the Mets opened their home season against the Philadelphia Phillies.

It was the earliest scheduled opening day in Mets history, and amazingly, it was also featured as the warmup.

Shea Stadium was expected to bask in unseasonable 80°F when Mets right-hander Bobby Jones threw out the first pitch yesterday. Curt Schilling, who led the majors in strikeouts last season, was slated to start for the Phillies.

Opening days have always been special for Valentine, who broke into baseball 30 years ago as a rookie in the Los Angeles Dodgers organization.

The start of the season signals both renewal and hope, a time to reflect on the past and what lies ahead.

"The best thing is the feeling, the feeling of something new," he said. "Something that you've done before that you get to do all over again. Firsts are special, and this one's like the first day of a new school year."

Valentine was sure that at some point, whether it's while he's taking the lineup card to home plate or upon hearing his named announced over the ballpark's PA, the emotion of opening day would flow through him.

"During some part of your sports career, and usually guys talk about it baseball-wise, you get a little shake in the leg," he said. "The adrenaline rushes so much that you have kind of a weakness, but it's a good weakness."

"You get that on opening day. Sometimes you play the whole season trying to get it back. Sometimes it happens in your first at-bat. In football games, you have it on the kickoff. I guess maybe the postseason brings it back, maybe. I don't know for sure."

The Mets talked about signing big-name players over the winter, but decided to stick with last year's nucleus while adding a few new faces.

If there are attendance problems, Valentine says winning will fix them. As for a new ballpark, the Mets have discussed plans for building a new facility someday

in Queens, if they can get the funding.

"Right now, I don't know if we've done enough to have people stand up and be convinced," he said. "I think there's a lot of people out there who liked what they saw last year and are hoping they can see it again."

Meanwhile, the Phillies are beginning the regular season while still fighting through the cold and flu season. A flu bug has followed the team north from Florida.

"We're battling it right now," manager Terry Francona said.

"When you've got 20 or 25 guys around each other all the time, it's going to get passed around."

With Schilling getting the ball every fifth day, and an improved pitching staff and promising young players like NL Rookie of the Year Scott Rolen, Mike Lieberthal and Bobby Abreu, the Phillies think they can be the NL's sleeper this year.

"I think we have a chance to compete," said Schilling, who set a league record for strikeouts by a right-hander in '97 with 319.



THAT RUNDOWN FEELING — Tampa Bay Devil Rays' Kevin Stocker is tagged out by Florida Marlins' catcher Randy Knorr in recent exhibition match.

(Reuters)

## Carter's pair helps Bruins to win Barley fined for calling official 'gutless'

BOSTON (AP) — The Boston Bruins got two goals from Anson Carter and two fluke goals off Colorado players as they beat another strong team with a 4-1 victory Monday night over the Avalanche.

Lightning 3, Rangers 1

Zac Bierk stopped 23 shots for his first NHL victory, and Mikael Andersson scored two goals and assisted on another to lead Tampa Bay to an away win.

Oilers 3, Flames 1

Todd Marchant scored two goals

as host Edmonton moved into a tie for seventh place in the Western Conference.

Blues 6, Sharks 2

Terry Yake had a goal and an assist during a four-goal second period, and Brett Hull picked up three assists to help St. Louis to a home win.

Kings 3, Maple Leafs 2

Russ Courtnall's short-handed goal with 1:39 remaining put an end to visiting Toronto's comeback plans and dampened the Maple Leafs' playoff hopes.

10 (Zurek), 18:21 (H), 5, Toronto, Clark, 10 (Korostelev, Johnson), 18:45, Goals—Los Angeles, St. Louis, Pomin, A—15,726

San Jose 1 0 1—2

First Period—1, San Jose, Zurek 5 (Houlder, Ricci), 8:09 (pp), Second Period—2, St. Louis, Courtnall 2 (Duchene, MacInnis), 25 (pp), 3, St. Louis, Turpin 17 (Hull, Bergman), 5:52, 4, St. Louis, Campbell 20 (Yake), 11:58, 5, St. Louis, Yake 9 (Pomin), 14:18, Third Period—2, St. Louis, Rheaume 4 (MacInnis, Hull), 1:06, 7, San Jose, Malenau 13 (Marchment), 6:36, 8, St. Louis, McAlpine 2 (Turpin, Hull), 12:16, Goals—San Jose, Houlder, Muzzatti, Houlder, Muzzatti, St. Louis, Fuhr, A—20,157

Calgary 0 1 0—1

First Period—1, Edmonton, MacInnis 16 (Hammill, Wright), 2:59 (pp), 2, Edmonton, Marchment 9, 11:08 (sh), Second Period—3, Calgary, Pomin 5 (Rien, Bouchard), 18:53, Third Period—0, Edmonton, Marchment 10 (Bouchard), 8:33, Goals—Calgary, Tabasco, Edmonton, Joseph, A—17,097

### EASTERN CONFERENCE

#### Atlantic Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-New Jersey	45	19	9	99	203	140
Philadelphia	37	24	11	85	215	171
Washington	33	28	11	77	190	184
N.Y. Rangers	22	34	18	42	182	209
N.Y. Islanders	24	37	10	58	185	204
Florida	21	39	12	54	174	225
Tampa Bay	17	46	9	43	142	229

#### Northwest Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-Pittsburgh	36	20	17	89	202	168
Boston	33	26	13	79	190	168
Montreal	34	29	9	77	212	183
Buffalo	31	26	15	77	183	165
Ottawa	28	31	13	69	168	179
Carolina	29	35	7	65	175	193

#### Western Conference

##### Central Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-Dallas	43	18	11	97	214	143
x-Detroit	39	20	15	93	225	179
x-St. Louis	39	26	8	86	217	174
Chicago	29	32	12	70	178	178
Phoenix	26	32	12	68	193	202
Toronto	26	38	9	61	167	208

##### Pacific Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-Colorado	37	21	16	90	215	184
Los Angeles	34	27	11	79	208	194
Edmonton	29	35	10	68	186	203
San Jose	29	37	7	65	179	197
Calgary	24	36	13	61	194	216
Anaheim	24	38	11	59	180	227
Vancouver	22	39	13	57	203	253

##### x-clinched playoff berth

### HOUSTON (AP) — The NBA

fined Houston Rockets' forward Charles Barkley \$10,000 Monday for calling referee Jack Nies "gutless" after being ejected from a game against the Orlando Magic.

Barkley was thrown out of Friday night's game for his second technical foul with 9:02 remaining and the Rockets trailing by 18 points. He received his first technical foul for protesting the lack of a call during the second quarter. He drew his second technical after

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE

##### Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
x-Miami	51	21	.708	—
New York	40	32	.554	11
Orlando	37	35	.514	14
New Jersey	36	35	.507	14 1/2
Washington	36	36	.500	15
Boston	31	40	.437	19 1/2
Philadelphia	26	45	.366	24 1/2

##### Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
x-Chicago	55	17	.764	—
x-Indiana	49	22	.690	5 1/2
Charlotte	45	26	.634	9 1/2
Atlanta	42	28	.600	12
Cleveland	40	31	.563	14 1/2
Detroit	34	38	.472	21
Milwaukee	30	41	.423	24 1/2
Toronto	15	55	.214	39

##### x-clinched playoff berth

complaining that he was held while going after a pass.

The Rockets lost the game, 100-75.

"I'd like to say one thing about Jack Nies," Barkley, who was fined and suspended for an altercation with the official last season, said after he was ejected. "I think he is a gutless official who holds grudges."

"For him to toss me for no reason ... since we had our altercation, I've always thought he was

gutless. He did nothing to dispute that tonight.

"You'll print that because I want the NBA to call me."

Barkley did not attend the Rockets' workout Monday because he was being treated for an injured shoulder.

### NBA Leaders (Through March 29)

Scoring	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Jordan, Chi.	72	766	485	2040	28.3
O'Neal, L.A.	49	533	275	1341	27.4
Malone, Utah	70	529	279	1348	26.4
Duncan, S.A.	54	534	215	1308	24.4
Robinson, Mil.	49	537	398	1600	23.2
Richmond, Sac.	71	530	381	1593	22.4
Rice, Clea.	71	419	282	1591	22.4
Walker, Bos.	61	546	167	1356	22.2
Abdur-Rahim, Min.	71	552	443	1562	22.0
Robinson, S.A.	66	506	438	1451	22.0
Hill, Det.	71	548	417	1515	21.3
Foley, Dall.	72	586	280	1536	21.3
Iverson, Phil.	69	531	323	1445	20.9
Duncan, S.A.	72	596	272	1464	20.3
Smith, Atl.	65	499	344	1389	20.1
Miller, Ind.	70	454	344	1390	19.9
Rider, Port.	64	472	291	1262	19.7
Baker, Sea.	71	555	287	1398	19.7
Allen, Mil.	71	482	279	1356	19.1
Payton, Sea.	71	493	244	1346	19.0

##### FG Percentage

	FG	FGA	PCT
O'Neal, L.A.	533	925	.576
Orlando, Fla.	270	482	.560
Murphy, Min.	354	634	.557
Duncan, S.A.	596	1092	.546
Hammond, Atl.	352	646	.545

##### Rebounds

	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Rodman, Chi.	70	375	681	1056	15.1
Williams, Atl.	65	443	440	883	13.6
Duncan, S.A.	72	243	616	859	11.9
Barkley, Min.	62	230	513	743	12.0
Murphy, Min.	70	233	547	780	11.1
Robinson, S.A.	66	221	484	705	10.7
Malone, Utah	70	166	547	713	10.5
Walker, Bos.	71	239	496	735	10.4
Mason, Clea.	70	155	558	713	10.2
Sabonis, Port.	68	137	555	692	10.2

##### Assists

	G	AST	AVG
Strickland, Wash.	72	764	10.6
Kidd, Phila.	72	651	9.0
Stockton, Utah	52	460	8.7
Jackson, Ind.	71	619	8.7
Payton, Sea.	71	600	8.5
Harbury, Min.	72	603	8.4
Hammond, Min.	72	599	8.3
Johnson, S.A.	68	539	8.2
Kalich, Clea.	69	538	8.1

	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
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##### FG Percentage

	FG	FGA
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Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis**

**Arsenal  
close in  
on United**

LONDON (AP) — Arsenal moved to within three points of league leaders Manchester United with two games in hand after a 1-0 away win over Bolton last night.

The victory gave Arsenal 60 points from 30 matches, compared to Manchester United who have 63 points from 32 matches.

The loss left Bolton in 19th place in the 20-team league as the struggling club faces relegation.

In last night's two other Premier League games, Blackburn beat Barnsley 2-1 and moved into fourth place as Rovers chase a place in Europe while Wimbledon and Newcastle drew 0-0.

Arsenal won the match through a 47th-minute goal by Christopher Weir and then held on with only 10 men when Martin Keown was sent off in the 65th with his second yellow card.

Elsewhere, in the second division, Bristol City won 2-1 at Oldham, Walsall won 1-0 at home over Gillingham, and Wrexham and Grimsby drew 0-0.

In division three, Darlington beat Shrewsbury 3-1.

**Late strike seals  
Inter win in  
UEFA Cup semis**

MILAN (Reuters) — An 89th minute goal by Brazilian midfielder Ze Elias gave Inter Milan a dramatic 2-1 victory over Spartak Moscow in a UEFA Cup semifinal first leg match last night.

Ze Elias crashed the ball high into the net from close range after a goalmouth scramble following a corner.

The Brazilian had earlier set up Chilean striker Ivan Zamorano to give Inter the lead with a powerful header which thumped into the Spartak goal off the underside of the crossbar.

The Russians equalized two minutes after the break through highly-rated midfielder Dmitry Alenichev. He raced through the home defence and beat Gianluca Pagliuca at his near post.

The victory was Inter's second of its kind in three days. On Saturday they beat Vicenza 2-1 in the league thanks to a last gasp goal from Ronaldo.

# Kentucky rallies to top Utah, 78-69

## Wildcats win 2nd NCAA title in 3 years by overcoming 10-point halftime deficit

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — They've been called Rupp's Runts, the Fiddlin' Five and the Fabulous Five. Now they're the Comeback Cats — and NCAA champions, too.

Kentucky capped a truly maddening March with an unprecedented second-half rally, beating Utah 78-

69 in a game — they lost to Arizona in OT last season — and the third straight year they ended Utah's season in the NCAA tournament.

"We were so close last year and not too many teams get a chance to play in the championship game three years in a row," said Scott Padgett, who missed the last national title while sitting out with academic problems. "But during the tournament I thought we were going to get it the whole time."

Utah's run to what would have been the school's second title ended because Kentucky did what No. 1 seeds Arizona and North Carolina couldn't do against the Utes — shoot well and wear them down.

Kentucky fell behind in the first half and trailed 41-31 at halftime. The deficit was as many as 12 in the opening minutes of the second half before Kentucky started hitting its shots and Utah lost the edge it had the last two games.

"Comeback Cats" is just the latest nickname for Kentucky. The 1948 championship team was called the Fabulous Five and the 1958 champions were the Fiddlin' Five. Perhaps the most famous of them all were Rupp's Runts. Adolph Rupp's 1966 team that lost to Texas Western (later Texas El Paso) in the title game.

Kentucky's comebacks were just

part of what made the NCAA tournament special this year. It was filled with overtime games, buzzer beaters and surprises from the likes of Valparaiso and Rhode Island, Stanford and Utah.

But the Utes, who won the championship in 1944, couldn't pull off one more upset.

Utah, the second-best defensive team in the country this season, had held its five tournament opponents to 39 percent shooting and an average of 62.5 points.

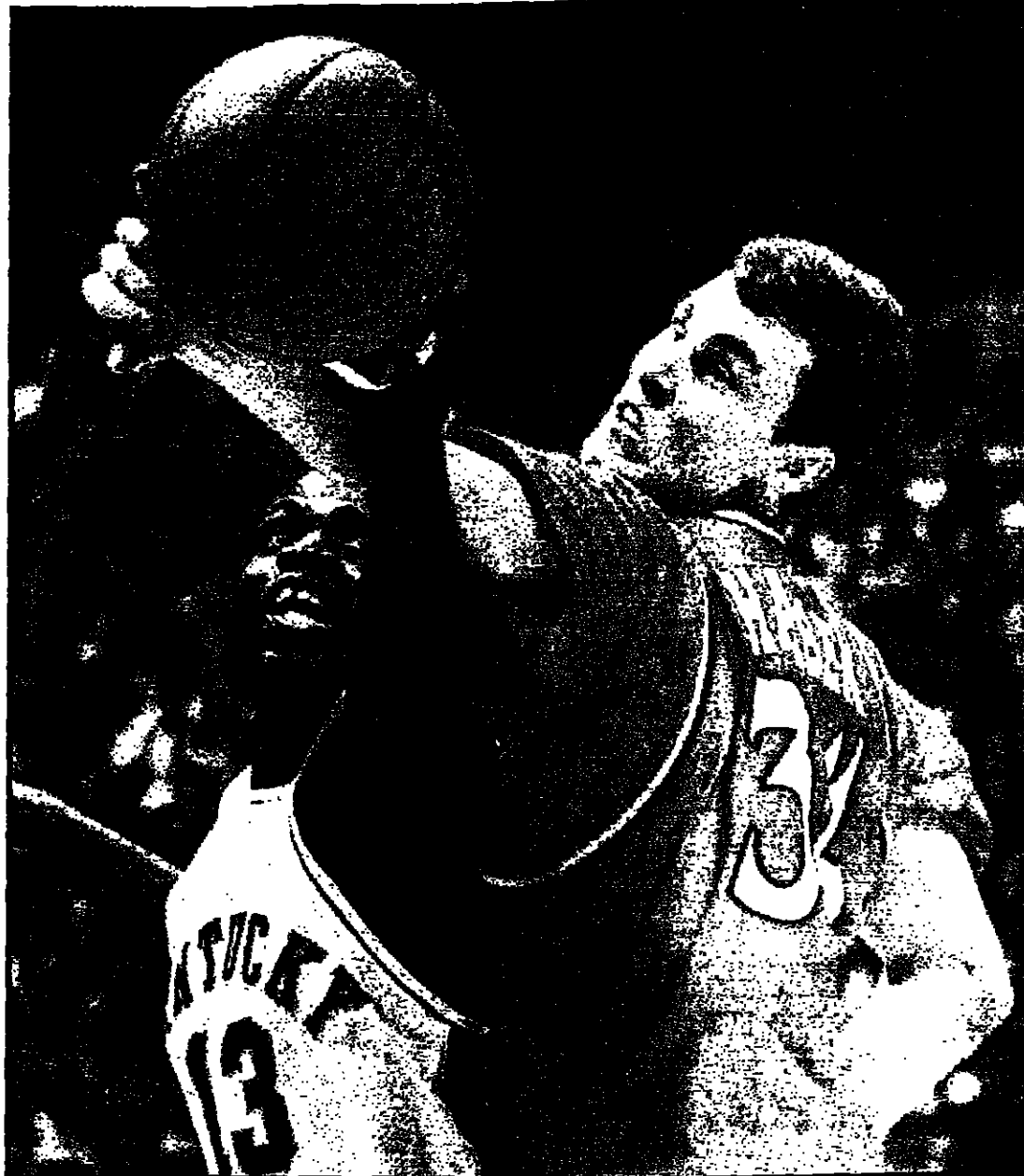
Kentucky, which finished 29-for-57 from the field (51 percent), chipped away at the lead in the second half by scoring on seven of 10 possessions during one stretch.

The Wildcats went on a 9-0 run and took the lead for the first time since early in the first half at 60-58 with 7:16 to play.

Final Four MVP Jeff Sheppard capped the rally with a breakaway dunk after he stole the ball.

Utah got the lead back at 62-60 on a driving layup by Andre Miller with 6:16 left and even extended it by two more points when Miller fed Alex Jensen for a layup 23 seconds later.

But a 3-pointer by Cameron Mills, Kentucky's fifth of the game — all in the second half — and a driving jumper by Sheppard with 4:53 left gave the Wildcats the lead for good.



THE OL' COLLEGE TRY — Kentucky's Nazir Mohammed (1) reaches for the ball with Utah's Drew Hansen in first-half action.

KENTUCKY 78, UTAH 69  
UTAH (20-4) started 4-10 8-15.  
Jensen 5-8 3-14, Dolezal 5-12 4-15,  
Miller 6-15 4-15, Hansen 1-6 0-0 2.  
Johnson 3-4 0-0 7, McTeish 0-0 0-0.  
Jackson 0-1 0-0 0, Catron 0-1 0-0 0.  
Totals 24-45 17-22 80.  
KENTUCKY (28-4) Edwards 2-7 0-0 4,  
Padgett 6-10 4-17, Mohammed 5-9 0-0 10,  
Turner 2-6 2-4 6, Sheppard 7-14 2-2 15,  
Mills 2-3 3-7, Evans 3-4 2-2 10, Lee 2-2 2-2 8, Smith 0-0 0-0 0, Bradley 0-0 0-0 0.  
Totals 29-57 15-17 78.  
Halftime—Utah 41, Kentucky 31. 3-point  
game—Utah 4-14 Jensen 1-1, Dolezal 1-1,  
Johnson 1-2, McTeish 1-3, Jackson 0-1,  
Catron 0-1, Hansen 0-2, Miller 0-3, Kentucky  
0-7 (Evans 2-2, Mills 2-4, Padgett 1-5,  
Turner 0-1, Sheppard 0-2, Edwards 0-3).  
Fouled out—Miller, Rebounds—Utah 39  
(Dolezal 10, Kentucky 24 (Evans 8).  
Assists—Utah 12 (Miller 5), Kentucky 15  
(Edwards 9). Total fouls—Utah 18, Kentucky  
15. A-40,500.

### NCAA Champions

1939 — Oregon	1969 — California	1979 — Mich. State
1940 — Indiana	1970 — Ohio State	1980 — Louisville
1941 — Wisconsin	1971 — Cincinnati	1981 — Indiana
1942 — Stanford	1972 — North Carolina	1982 — North Carolina
1943 — Wyoming	1973 — Loyola, Ill.	1983 — NC State
1944 — Utah	1974 — UCLA	1984 — Georgetown
1945 — Okla. A&M	1975 — UCLA	1985 — Villanova
1946 — Okla. A&M	1976 — Texas Western	1986 — Louisville
1947 — Holy Cross	1977 — UCLA	1987 — Indiana
1948 — Kentucky	1978 — UCLA	1988 — Kansas
1949 — Kentucky	1979 — UCLA	1989 — Michigan
1950 — UNLV	1980 — UCLA	1990 — UNLV
1951 — Kentucky	1981 — UCLA	1991 — Duke
1952 — Kansas	1982 — UCLA	1992 — Duke
1953 — Indiana	1983 — UCLA	1993 — North Carolina
1954 — La Salle	1984 — Arkansas	1994 — Arkansas
1955 — San Francisco	1985 — UCLA	1995 — UCLA
1956 — San Francisco	1986 — Kentucky	1996 — Kentucky
1957 — North Carolina	1987 — Arizona	1997 — Arizona
1958 — Kentucky	1988 — Kentucky	1998 — Kentucky

## Hap. Tel Aviv, Bet. Jerusalem ousted from State Cup

Holdovers Beersheba, Mac. Haifa, Ironi Ashdod and Hap. Jerusalem reach semi-finals

By ORI LEWIS  
and OFER RONEN-ABELS

The two leading teams in this season's league campaign, Hapoel Tel Aviv and Beitar Jerusalem, can now get on with concentrating on the "match of the season" on Saturday, and the rest of the league, after being knocked out of the State Cup at the quarter final stage yesterday.

Hapoel Jerusalem put paid to Hapoel Tel Aviv's hopes of a league and cup double after winning 7-6 on penalties.

Beitar's similar aspirations were scuppered by cup holders Hapoel Beersheba who made another great comeback to win 2-1 after extra time.

In the two other matches, Maccabi Haifa also needed extra time to beat Ironi Rishon LeZion 4-2 while Ironi Ashdod effectively ended Hapoel Petah Tikva's season with a 2-0 win in the only match which finished in the regulation 90 minutes.

The four semi-finalists now go into the hat for the draw which will be made on Friday.

The semi-finals doubleheader will be played at the National Stadium, Ramat Gan on April 21. The final will be held on May 12.

**Hapoel Beersheba 2,  
Beitar Jerusalem 1**  
(after extra time)

Beitar learned yesterday that they can take nothing for granted, even when playing against a team with an abysmal league record like Beersheba's.

They also should have recalled Beersheba's excellent comeback in the previous round when they overcame Hapoel Haifa 4-3 in extra time.

Isvan Pishont put the ball in the back of Shaul Smadja's net in the 14th minute, but the Beitar fans' celebrations were a little premature, as the linesman had signalled that the ball had gone out of play. The goal was disallowed.

Isvan Hamar did convert Beitar's early dominance into a goal when he struck in the 32nd minute, but it turned out to be too little too soon.

The Negev side surged back in the second period, and Oren Sagron equalized for Beersheba in the 59th minute.

As comeback kings — Beitar seem to have an ability to win matches after falling behind early in their matches this season — one might have expected the Jerusalemites to dominate the latter part of the match

and the extra time period. But things turned out very differently yesterday.

The winning goal, scored in the 98th minute, was the work of Beersheba's two substitutes, shrewdly brought on late in the game by coach Eliahu Ofer.

A perfect pass from Alon Reef put Christian Okapella, who had little difficulty in slotting the ball past a despairing Itzik Kornfein in the Beitar goal.

**Hapoel Tel Aviv 3,  
Hapoel Jerusalem 3**  
(after extra time)

This typical cup-tie match had all the highs and lows of a roller-coaster, with both teams appearing to have several chances of securing victory before the cruel penalty shootout.

Jerusalem travelled to Bloomfield definitely as the underdogs, even though they had drawn the first and won the second of the league encounters against Tel Aviv this season.

The league leaders felt secure playing in front of their home supporters at Bloomfield, but it turned out to be far more difficult than they had expected.

Dudi Stolper gave Jerusalem the lead when he netted in the 17th minute after picking up an excellent through-ball from Assi Tubi.

The equalizer came from Ofer Shitrit — who scored a hat trick — when he struck five minutes before the break.

Shitrit's second came after 75 minutes, and the Tel Avivians began looking for the light at the end of the tunnel.

But four minutes later, Jerusalem's Salman Amar made it 2-2 to send the match to extra time.

Laszlo Cze put Jerusalem in the lead once again in the 96th minute, and they managed to hold on playing some enterprising football.

Just three minutes from the end, the Jerusalemites could have scored again on two occasions when first Cze and then Tubi, had easy chances.

But after they had missed, Shitrit capitalized and in the final minute of extra time he again gave the hosts some hope.

The penalty shootout was a cliff-hanger. George Drasilja missed the second kick for Tel Aviv and Jerusalem looked on top again before Stolper obliged the hosts by lofting his shot (Jerusalem's fourth) over the bar.

The teams then converted their shots comfortably until Tel Aviv's eighth kick when Pini Balali hit the crossbar.

Jerusalem's keeper Liran Strauber then stepped up to finish off proceedings with a perfectly-taken penalty to send the visitors into rapturous celebrations.

**Maccabi Haifa 4,  
Ironi Rishon LeZion 2**  
(after extra time)

Alon Mizrahi was Haifa's hero in the victory which saw four goals scored in a 17-minute period in the middle of the match.

Rishon took the lead after 36 minutes when Sharon Marciano's spectacular left-foot drive from 30 meters went into the top corner of Nir Davidovich's net.

A minute before the interval, Ibrahim Duro was brought down inside the box by Rishon's Noam Shoham. Mizrahi opened his account when he converted the ensuing penalty to level the scores.

On the stroke of half time, Nir Shikva found himself free in the box, his shot was saved by Davidovich but Yevgeny Kashmetsev pounced on the rebound to slot in from close range and restore Rishon's lead.

Eight minutes into the second half, Sagi Strauss, Rishon's 'keeper, fumbled the free kick only for Mizrahi to chest the ball down and fire into the back of the net from about 10 meters out.

With the scores level, the game moved into extra time, and in the 94th minute, Mizrahi got his hat trick when he lobbed Strauss from an acute angle.

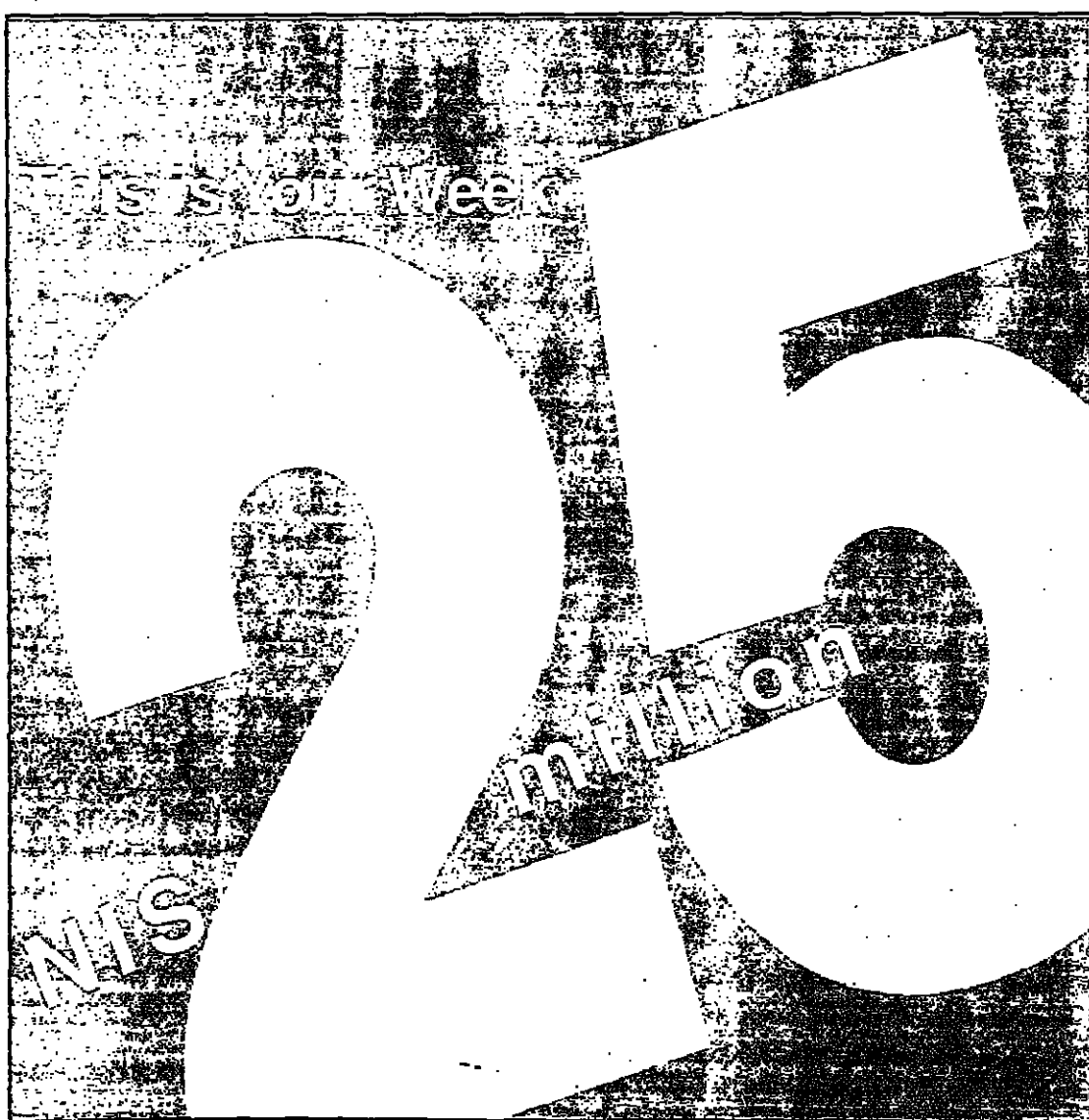
Maccabi secured their victory in the last minute of extra time with another penalty. Mizrahi, who was fouled in the box, let Arik Benado, who was back after suspension, fire in the penalty.

**Hap. PT 0, Ironi Ashdod 2**

Mediocre Petah Tikva might have salvaged something from this season had they managed to score early, but a goal against the run of play by Ashdod's Naor Galili in the tenth minute snuffed out their hopes.

The early goal by the visitors snuffed out Hapoel's enthusiasm, and the rest of the dull match on their part provoked the home fans to call for the head of manager Nir Levin.

A late second goal by Krazimir Muscal in the 74th minute was simply the final nail on the hatch of the Petah Tikva den who can now go into hibernation until next August, the start of the new season.



# JUBILEE LOTTO

## Draw Tomorrow

Tickets will be sold till 6 p.m.



Draw will be held at 7:55 p.m.

Mifal Hapayis

Draw No. 13/98

מכרז מיליון